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9 December 1983

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

No. 2864

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ARMENIAN QUESTION PRESENTED TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Lyon FRANCE ARMENIE in French and Armenian Oct 83 p 1

[Article by Paule Duport in French]

[Text] Madame Paule Duport, deputy in the European Parliament, has submitted a draft proposal which will be debated by the political committee of the European Economic Community. This proposal has been accepted by the socialist group (of mixed nationalities) of the Strasbourg Parliament.

This step will undoubtedly be supported by the other political groups in which the Defense Committee of the Armenian Cause [CDCA] is initially counting on convinced friends, such as Mr Francisque Collomb, senator-mayor of Lyon, UDF [French Democratic Union] and Mr Pierre Bernard Couste, RPR [Rally for the Republic]--both European deputies.

One should not forget that Madame Paule Deuport had done us the favor of being present at the demonstrations of 24 April, organized by the CDCA in Grenoble.

Below we give the text of the draft proposal submitted. The case will be continued.

Pursuant to article 48 of the regulations on a political solution of the Armenian question the European Parliament:

--considering the fresh outbreak of attacks organized by Armenian groups who assume responsibility,

--considering that the repression of terrorism does not suffice to eliminate the injustices on which these groups base their action,

--considering that violence is not the principal expression of the Armenian communities, and the fact that their big political organizations offer other solutions which have been rejected until today,

--considering that the cultural, linguistic and ethnic rights of minorities to the recognition of their identity is bound up with the recognition of their history,

--considering that the Armenian people are deprived of his history because the Turkish Government, by refusing to admit the genocide of 1915, effaces the historical reality of Armenia,

1. Stands up vigorously against the shameful attacks unworthy of the cause which they pretend to serve.
2. Expresses its solidarity vis-a-vis the victims of these attacks.
3. Requests that the Council of Ministers of EEC:
 - a) proclaim recognition of genocide,
 - b) obtain from the Turkish Government recognition of the historic fact of the 1915 genocide,
 - c) convince the Turkish Government that a just and durable solution of the Turk-Armenian problem can only be achieved by political dialogue,
 - d) obtain an identical declaration from the UN.
4. Instruct its president to transmit the present proposal to the Council and the Committee.

12309

CSO: 4619/1

CONSULTATIVE MEETING EXAMINES STATUS OF LEBANESE ARMENIANS

Tehran ALIK in Armenian 19 Oct 83 pp 1,2

[Text] An important consultative meeting was held at the National Prelacy in Sourj Hammoud on the morning of 22 September to discuss the current situation in Lebanon and the role of the Armenian community in that situation. The meeting was called and chaired by the Prelate of the Lebanese-Armenian community, His Beatitude Archbishop Aram Keshishian.

The participants in the meeting included members of the Political Congress of the National Administration, Armenian members of parliament, the chairmen of the National Rural Congress and the chairmen of the committees and other bodies of the National Leadership.

The meeting had three major issues on its agenda:

- A) Intercommunal relations in Lebanon;
- B) General examination of the current political situation;
- C) Reorganization of national-ecclesiastical life.

A) The Prelate presented to the participants in the meeting a general overview of intercommunal relations in Lebanon. After reporting about his meetings and contacts with other spiritual leaders in the last two weeks, the prelate announced similar meetings he will hold in the coming days and underscored the following points:

1. Although all communal leaders are despaired by the current situation, they are optimistic about the future of Lebanon.
2. All spiritual leaders have spoken positively about the role and the contributions of the Armenian community with regard to the Lebanese crisis.

The Holy Prelate underscored the following points during these meetings:

- a) It is necessary to unite around legitimacy which should be the cornerstone of the existence and strength of Lebanon.
- b) It is necessary to maintain the state of just coexistence among the communities.

c) It is necessary to strengthen intercommunal relations at all levels.

d) The Armenian community is prepared to fully contribute to all efforts aimed at preserving the unity, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon.

The participants in the meeting recommended the continuation of the prelate's contacts and meetings.

B) Parliamentary deputies, Maitre Khachig Babikian and Dr. Markos Holipastian, reported about the current situation in Lebanon. Both speakers first reviewed the background of the Lebanese crisis with all its aspects and developments and then focused on the current situation that has resulted. They reviewed the talks that are currently in progress both at the local and the regional level and explained the views and the demands of the Lebanese government. Then they surveyed the major meetings and contacts of the Armenian parliamentary deputies in the last few weeks, focusing in particular on the results they had achieved. After listening to the views and the proposals of the participants in the meeting, the Armenian deputies concluded their speeches with the following points:

a) Armenian parliamentary deputies are continuing their political contacts vigilantly and vigorously.

b) Armenian parliamentary deputies are making special efforts to take an active role in all efforts aimed at national reconciliation.

c) Speaking about the current state of Armenian national life, the Holy Prelate listed three areas that are of major concern:

a) The growth of a new current of emigration.

b) The revitalization of institutions that have a place in national life.

c) The financial situation of the Armenian national schools.

a) The Prelate expressed concern that the current state of insecurity can lead to a new wave of emigration. The participants in the meeting also expressed concern about this issue. They emphasized that every effort must be made to prevent such a trend and that the Lebanese-Armenian community is determined, out of regard for its supreme national interests, to remain in Lebanon and to keep in Lebanon its national, ecclesiastical, political, cultural, philanthropical and other institutions.

b) Following the Prelate's report about efforts aimed at reorganizing national institutions and community life, the participants recommended that such efforts be intensified under the leadership of His Holiness the Prelate and the National Leadership and that every institution that has a place in our national life maintain a continuous and permanent presence in the life of our people and assume its share of responsibilities in these days in particular.

c) The Prelate also reported about the current financial state of Armenian national schools and the difficulties that are expected to be encountered if they

reopening of schools is postponed. After a broad exchange of views on this issue, the meeting decided to begin the school year on the date previously decided if conditions permit. Otherwise, it is essential that the National Leadership live up to its moral and financial commitments on Armenian schools with the assistance of our people.

9522

CSO: 4605/11

POOR GRAIN CROP EXPECTED DUE TO DROUGHT

Casablanca LA VIE ECONOMIQUE in French 10 Jun 83 p 5

[Article: "The 1983 Harvest: 31.6 Million Quintals--According to Estimates Worked Out in May"]

[Text] It would appear that the 1983 grain harvest (durum wheat, soft wheat, barley, and corn) will ultimately turn out to be even poorer than had been feared. According to estimates worked out in May by the departments concerned in the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, the harvest for the four principal grains will only reach 31.6 million quintals as compared to 47.6 million quintals in 1982.

These disappointing results were caused by very poor rainfall distribution; in particular, the months of January and April, the most critical ones for growth and ripening, were very dry.

However, the season started auspiciously with relatively abundant and early rainfall which made it possible to sow much larger areas than in 1982 (11 percent larger). But unfortunately the drought prevalent south of the Casablanca-Beni Mellal line severely affected production.

Let us parenthetically point out here that the 1982 harvest estimates had been about 40 million quintals while in fact 47 million quintals were recorded. So estimates include an inevitable margin of error.

Having said that, here in general outline are the 1983 harvest forecasts:

Cultivated area: 4,586,000 hectares

Average yield: 6.9 quintals/hectare

Changes from the previous season:

- 11 percent increase in cultivated area
- 44.4 percent decrease in yield
- 33.6 percent decrease in production

Production by grain type:

Durum wheat	11.2 million quintals
Soft wheat	6.7 million quintals
Barley	11.4 million quintals
Corn	2.3 million quintals

Areas:

Durum wheat	1,290,100 hectares
Soft wheat	676,800 hectares
Barley	2,184,300 hectares
Corn	434,900 hectares

Yields:

Durum wheat	8.7 quintals/hectare
Soft wheat	9.9 quintals/hectare
Barley	5.2 quintals/hectare
Corn	5.4 quintals/hectare

Durum wheat harvests:

1978	14.4 million quintals
1979	13.1 million quintals
1980	13.3 million quintals
1981	6.1 million quintals
1982	14.1 million quintals
1983	11.2 million quintals

Soft wheat harvests:

1978	4.4 million quintals
1979	4.9 million quintals
1980	4.8 million quintals
1981	2.8 million quintals
1982	7.8 million quintals
1983	6.7 million quintals

Barley harvests:

1978	23.3 million quintals
1979	18.9 million quintals
1980	22.1 million quintals
1981	10.4 million quintals
1982	23.3 million quintals
1983	11.4 million quintals

Corn harvests:

1978	3.9 million quintals
1979	3.1 million quintals
1980	3.3 million quintals
1981	0.9 million quintals
1982	2.5 million quintals
1983	2.3 million quintals

One fact deserves to be emphasized, and that is the considerable expansion in the area dedicated to soft wheat which in 1983 reached a record figure-- 676,800 hectares, compared to 579,100 hectares in 1982 and less than 500,000 on average during previous years.

By the way it should be stressed that the best yields this year were achieved in soft wheat, which cannot help but encourage farmers to continue down that path.

The Harvests of the Last 12 Years

<u>Year</u>	<u>Production</u> (millions of quintals)	<u>Yield</u> (quintals/hectare)
1972	49.9	11.32
1973	30.5	6.76
1974	46.3	10.67
1975	35.3	8.82
1976	55.4	12.39
1977	28.2	6.03
1978	45.9	10.12
1979	39.4	9.42
1980	43.5	10.18
1981	20.2	4.76
1982	47.6	12.4
1983	31.6	6.9

9631

CSO: 4519/259

MINISTER OF EQUIPMENT DISCUSSES ROLE OF PORTS

Casablanca LA VIE ECONOMIQUE in French 10 Jun 83 p 3

[Interview with Mohammed Kabbaj, minister of equipment, date and place not specified: "The Port Program: A Gigantic Undertaking; Studies Underway to Define the Role of the Ports of Casablanca and Mohammedia"]

[Text] Mr Mohammed Kabbaj, Minister of Equipment

Last week Mr Mohammed Kabbaj, minister of equipment, talked to us about road projects, in particular the completion of the Casablanca-Rabat highway which represents a big economic expenditure for the nation. But it means considerable economies, since the internal rate of return for such a construction project is on the order of 32 percent.

Today we publish the continuation of the interview that Mr Kabbaj granted us--more particularly the portion devoted to port infrastructure, which constitutes one of the great achievements of His Majesty Hassan II's reign. For out of all the countries in the world Morocco is undoubtedly the one which has undertaken the biggest projects in that area.

Jorf Lasfar

[Answer] In fact one of the biggest ports built in the world in recent years is the port of Jorf Lasfar. It is a remarkable accomplishment because of both the technology used and its size. Besides, special-purpose ports like the port of Jorf Lasfar are rare in the world.

[Question] There is truly something exhilarating about such an immense accomplishment.

[Answer] The process which is being carried out is ongoing. Everything is proceeding along in terms of both port infrastructure and the building of the industrial complexes the port is going to accommodate. As far as the port itself is concerned, it began to operate in June 1982, receiving 22,000 tons of corn; traffic is still slight since it is limited to grain and miscellaneous goods, and it amounted to 150,000 tons for the entire year of 1982. We are getting in the equipment this year at Jorf Lasfar which is needed for the construction of the chemical complex and also coal to fuel the thermal power plants and industrial plants which have been converted to that fuel.

Indeed, it is known that ONE [National Electricity Office] has decided to make greater use of coal rather than fuel oil since the former is much more economical. For the moment Jerada's production is still stationary at about 750,000-800,000 tons while we're waiting for new banks to be mined. So we have to turn to importing; hence a large part of the coal needed will be arriving via Jorf Lasfar, as soon as the railway can provide the dispatching system for it. But port work is not going on just at Jorf.

The Port of Mohammedia

Indeed, in addition to Jorf, another very large port is in the process of being constructed--the port of Mohammedia, a special-purpose port for petroleum products which is going to accommodate 100,000-ton ships.

[Question] In regard to that port, even laymen have expressed admiration concerning how well organized the work being done is.

[Answer] In fact, the contract is being carried out within allotted deadlines. The port will be serving not only tanker traffic but also coastal traffic. We conceive of it as a port integrated into the port of Casablanca, forming a single unit. We are in fact in the process of looking at the traffic breakdown and what specialization ought to be assigned to each of those two ports. We are carrying out an examination product by product and looking at the possibilities of putting this activity at Casablanca and that activity at Mohammedia.

[Question] What about wood, for example?

[Answer] I repeat, nothing has been decided since we are at the study stage. The two ports should definitely work together in order to relieve the congestion at Casablanca, by transferring certain goods over to Mohammedia. We are in the process of doing the job of examining that by systematically taking into account all types of goods, wood shipments, ore shipments, and containers.

[Question] In that regard, with the construction of Casablanca's new transverse pier that city's port has new space available and, when all is said and done, your only problem is to make the choices.

[Answer] In fact we have set aside in principle the new embankments of the port of Casablanca for the container station. and we have a plan assigning 60 hectares for that kind of traffic. But we do not want to make a hasty decision. What is needed is a well thought-out action, and we are in touch with the World Bank and various institutions with respect to financing those operations. What is important to us is to optimize the use of the two ports, and to do that we have to start from scratch in order to set out the specific nature of each one. The precise orientations will be specified before the end of the first half of 1983, as will what investments are to be made in both ports in order for them to carry out their functions to the fullest at the least cost to the community.

The enormous advantage of the port of Mohammedia is that it makes it possible to put in deep-water piers, while at Casablanca we cannot get over 12 meters draft. That is a severe handicap for the port of Casablanca. On the other hand, at Mohammedia we have 15 meters, which makes the port accessible to ships of over 80,000 tons. At Casablanca we can barely go over 25,000 tons.

The port of Mohammedia's possibilities constitute, therefore, an enormous advantage. especially when compared to current trends in maritime traffic. The effects of such possibilities on freight costs, especially for grain, are considerable. Per-ton shipping costs in large ships are only one-third of freight costs in low-tonnage ships. So we want to use the advantage offered by the port of Mohammedia to a maximum.

[Question] So silos are going to have to be built at Mohammedia?

[Answer] In fact we are thinking of building silos. We are also thinking about third-generation container ships, the bigger ones capable of transporting upwards of 5,000 containers. We are thinking about big ore carriers and tankers, it goes without saying We also envisage accommodating ships at Mohammedia which are specially geared to transporting natural gas and have 150,000 cubic meter capacities. It will be stored in the salt deposit near Mohammedia.

[Question] And is it as deep at Jorf?

[Answer] We have been able to get 15 meters draft at Jorf Lasfar as well. We decided on a modern design of the port, so 100,000-ton phosphate ore carriers will be able to get to the piers.

The Port of Nador

Before finishing with the port of Mohammedia. I would like to stress that while it isn't as big a construction achievement as the Jorf Lasfar one, it is exceptionally large-sized. We have also built the port of Nador, which is Morocco's biggest port on the Mediterranean. Its amount of traffic has been constantly growing--in 1982 it went over 600,000 tons. And we think the figure for its various commodities will rapidly be reaching 1 million tons per year--by 1985--and will be reaching 2 million tons in the year 2000.

[Question] This increase in Nador's traffic is obviously linked to the region's industrial development, particularly the Morocco Phosphorus V facility.

[Answer] We also have SONASID [National Steel Company] and the very great agricultural potential of the hinterland.

There are also the cement works and coal fields. And you know that the port of Nador was planned so as to be integrated in future with the port of Melilla, which will make that port complex one of the biggest in the southern Mediterranean.

The Port of Agadir

[Question] And what about Agadir?

[Answer] We are also thinking about the port of Agadir, which is experiencing a very great increase in traffic. The present port is limited by its size and by the shallow draft of its piers, which are accessible only to 10,000-ton ships. So we have planned the construction of a modern deep-water port alongside the Anza industrial zone. We have already started up consultations and we are hoping to find the financing needed to build the port, which will give the economy of the Souss a new boost.

[Question] What will become of the present port?

[Answer] Of course it will remain and will be used mainly for fishing. Between the new port and the old one we envisage building a sailboat harbor, so as to produce a whole complex which meets the region's needs completely and corresponds exactly to its calling.

The Other Ports

[Question] And what about the other port projects?

[Answer] Among the biggest projects underway I can cite the port of Laayou, a very big project, which is going to make the expansion of fishing and trade and particularly coastal shipping in that area possible. That port should be able to handle 200,000 tons of fisheries products and 300,000 tons of goods annually.

[Question] Not counting phosphates?

[Answer] Phosphates have their own port--a wharf projecting out into open sea which cannot be used by merchant ships.

There is also the port of Sidi Ifni, a small fishing port in the process of being built.

[Question] And what about Tan Tan?

[Answer] The port is completed and the industrial facilities are being installed. The port of Tarfaya is also finished.

Of course we are carrying out a number of development projects in the other ports. A port, you know, is living infrastructure, constantly requiring re-outfitting and expansion.

[Question] And what about the Ras Kebdana project on the Mediterranean?

[Answer] The fishing harbor is completed, and plants have already been set up to process anchovies and the coral which is so abundant in that part of the Mediterranean.

[Question] What are the ministry's near-term plans in terms of ports?

[Answer] The most pressing activities are the new container facilities in Casablanca and Mohammedia, in order to deal with an expansion on the order of 20 percent per year in that traffic. But we are thinking about Agadir and other ports, in particular Boujdour and Dakhla in the south, and on the Mediterranean we are thinking about the port of Al Hoceima, about the expansion of the port of M'diq, and further down the road about a big new phosphate port similar to Jorf which will be built at Cap Sim. We also intend to encourage shipyards and expand fishing.

[Question] Grain importing often faces a shortage of silos.

[Answer] ONICL [expansion unknown] has undertaken to build silos at Nador. Others are going to be started on shortly in Tangier, and we are in the process of designing an integrated silos program, especially in Mohammedia.

BRIEFS

QATARI GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT--The central office for statistics in Qatar put out the third annual issue of the compilation of statistics yesterday. It contains 15 sections and is comprised of the statistical reports and indicators that reflect the economic and social nature of the community in Qatar. These reports show that the number of residents in Qatar in 1981 was about 240,000, 32 percent of whom were under the age of 15. The number of persons working in the government sector by April of 1983 came to about 30,220, of whom 12,552 are Qataris. That is 42 percent of all those who work in the government. The reports also show that the gross domestic product [GDP] for 1982 was about 28.83 billion Qatari riyals at a time of a record increase in retail prices, 6.6 percent, between 1981 and 1982. It is worth mentioning that since 1970 it has been the practice of the central office for statistics to supply the various national institutions, the business sector, the Qatari diplomatic missions, the national and regional organizations, interested individuals, and researchers with a copy of the annual compilation of statistics to give everyone the opportunity to learn about the aspects of development that Qatar is experiencing in various areas. [Text] [Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 2 Sep 83 p 10] 12496

CSO: 4404/49

FUNDS ALLOCATED TO ONGOING AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 3 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Muhammad 'Abd-al-Karim: "126 Million Dirhams for Ministry of Agriculture Projects, Including 20 Million for Agriculture and Fishing Loans"]

[Text] Dubayy. The total authorizations in this year's budget earmarked for support in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries came to 35 million dirhams, including 10.5 million dirhams for agricultural loans; 9.7 million for fishing loans; 8.3 million for seed, fertilizer, and insecticides; and 6.5 million for agriculture equipment and tractors.

Mr Hamad 'Abdullah Salman, deputy minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, announced this.

Also, the total authorizations earmarked for supplemental projects in the ministry came to 91 million dirhams; including 8 million for the administration of water and land resources; 12.2 million for the project of surveying water and land sources; 2.9 million for completing the central laboratory; and 1.5 million for agricultural and veterinary quarantine.

The appropriation for the study and construction of dams amounted to 6.5 million dirhams, and 1.4 million was appropriated for fruit seedlings; 1.5 million for the improvement of date palm groves; 2.7 million for digging wells; 4 million for developing hand pumps and irrigation canals; 3.2 million for the cultivation project; and 4 million for the conservation and channeling of the water of the wadis.

Also included in the ministry's budget was 9.5 million dirhams for establishing a fruit farm; 14 million for breeding fish; 6 million for producing nursery plants; 3 million to combat agricultural diseases; 300,000 for artificial insemination; 300,000 for studies on timber farming; 9 million for the new irrigation project; and 330,000 for the agricultural marketing project; in addition to 470,000 for settling outstanding costs on Ministry of Agriculture projects that have been completed.

From another aspect 24 million dirhams have been allocated in the Ministry of Public Works and Housing budget to complete Ministry of Agriculture projects that are now under construction by the Ministry of Public Works.

MINISTRY OF PLANNING REPORTS ON ELECTRICITY, WATER PROJECTS

Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 3 Sep 83 p 2

[Text] The cost of electricity projects carried out during 1982 in the country came to 284 million dirhams, while the cost of water projects came to 74 million dirhams.

The annual report issued by the Ministry of Planning, reported on the continued implementation of the projects in the country up to the end of 1982. In the field of electrification the Ra's al-Khaymah, Khawr Fakkan, Qadfa' electricity project, with a 57.9 million dirham authorization, has been completed; as well as the Qadfa' electricity project, with an 8.59 million dirham authorization; the project connecting the gas turbines at 'Ajman with the electrical generator units in the Emirates, with a 6 million dirham authorization; and the Qadfa' Station project for distributing in excess of 20 megawatts, with an appropriation of 25 million dirhams.

The report states that the construction of the electrical transfer line between Kalba', al-Fujayrah, Qadfa', and Daba was completed at a cost of 75 million dirhams and that the Masafi electrical project was completed at a cost of 1.42 million dirhams, as well as the Masfut electrical project at a cost of 815,000 dirhams and the al-Dhid electrical project, at a cost of 1.55 million dirhams.

The report from the Ministry of Planning says that during 1982 additional 11 kilovolt lines were added to the transfer stations to supply rural areas with electricity. This project came to 25 million dirhams. An aerial electric line was completed between al-Dhayd, Manama, and Masafi which cost 2 million dirhams, and the al-Jazirah electrical project, costing 3.5 million dirhams, was completed as well as a 33 kilovolt line at Umm al-Qaywayn costing 48 million dirhams and a 33 kilovolt line between Umm al-Qaywayn and al-Rafi'ah costing 10 million dirhams. A project, costing 20 million dirhams, was completed connecting the electrical stations of Umm al-Qaywayn and Falj al-Ma'ala by an overhead tension line.

In the category of water several projects were completed in 1982, including the al-Burayrat water project, which cost 11.8 million dirhams, and the al-Fujayrah water project, which cost 9.64 million dirhams.

12496

CSO: 4404/49

DIRECTOR TOUTS SUCCESS OF HOTEL INDUSTRY

Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 4 Sep 83 p 6

[Article by Mahjub Musa: "A Million Shares Offered by National Abu Dhabi Hotels Realizes Profit that exceeds Subscription Cost"]

[Text] "The National Abu Dhabi Hotels Company" realized a profit that exceeded the cost of subscription of the company shares, which totals one million shares, was offered to the public, represents 65 percent of the company's capital, and which comes to 100 million dirhams.

'Abdullah al-Sa'di, assistant director general of the company, gave out this information and added that more than the cost of the investment had been recovered and that profits were more than 100 percent to the public during the short time since establishment of the company in 1978. The company's course is attributable to diversifying income sources in the fields of tourist and hotel investment, both inside and outside the country, which, to a great extent, assures a steady profit for the company.

No Sign of Stagnation

He said that the company had not been affected by the current economic stagnation because of its course, as previously stated, in the field of investment since it has managed recently to buy the Sheraton and Meridian hotels in Abu Dhabi. He said, "We were successful in this deal."

But he did not want to talk about its size, after the company obtained a simple, long term loan at a negligible interest rate--that is, "With the same provisions that applied when we brought, in 1978, The al-'Ayn Hilton, the Abu Dhabi Hilton, and the Abu Dhabi Ramada"--when the loan stipulated payment within 15 years, 2 years of which were payment and interest free.

He referred to establishment of the food division, which is yielding 50 percent of the annual profit--since the company is providing food services at Abu Dhabi International Airport and at the University of the Emirates in addition to its contractual obligation to provide food at maritime cooperatives and in remote areas of the interior as well as to the large project of providing food at al-Zarqa' Island.

Rising Profits

'Abdullah al-Sa'di expects the profit ratio this year to rise, especially since buying the Sheraton and Meridian hotels--indicating that the buying was done without recourse to raising the basic capital so that the company would become responsible for raising the profits for those investing in company shares.

Anis 'Isa, the company's financial and administrative director, says that, as a result of the support the company receives from senior officials in Abu Dhabi for diversifying sources of income, companies have been formed abroad in the travel and hotel business, since the company has recently bought hotels in Italy and France, and the final studies are in process to make some investments in Tunis.

Price of a Share

He said that the policy of the Company's board of directors, which is chaired by Naser al-Nawis, has won for it the confidence of the shareholders and the big international corporations that are active in similar fields, as indicated by the fact that the market price of a share has gone from 100 dirhams to about 450 dirhams.

He said that despite the company's being able to overcome the negative effects of economic stagnation by changing its sources of income, the percentage of jobs in the hotels owned by the company has been noted to drop slightly, "But we expect the percentage to return to its normal average, even above, in 1984."

Fields for New Cadres

He made it clear that the guidance of the responsible authorities had been correct, and that the company had opened its doors to the citizens desiring to work in it. In addition to its desire to attract Arab cadres active in the hotel field, and this is in agreement with a plan under study regarding the real need for the company's facilities with regard to wages. There is also the need to uphold the high international level of services which the company's hotels offer.

In this regard 'Abdullah al-Sa'di, assistant director general, stated that the company welcomes fellow citizens to work in the company, "And we have started sending cadres of citizens for training and experience abroad, and bringing them back to head up the work. In addition to our summer program of training students in the company's hotels and acquainting them with work in the various hotel operations. And during this period we give them the opportunity to choose work in this field in the future if they desire previous awareness and training."

SOVIET BOMBING OF AFGHAN VILLAGE REPORTED

Penang THE STAR in English 20 Oct 83 p 14

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Wed. — Soviet air and ground troops have flattened almost half a village north of Kabul in a five-day bombardment apparently aimed at flushing out Muslim resistance forces, western diplomats said here yesterday.

The bombing was part of a stepped-up campaign against the anti-communist forces in the Shomali Valley, which stretches north from the capital of Kabul towards the Soviet Union, they said.

The hillside village of Istaeef, 55km north of Kabul, took the worst beating from Soviet MiGs and helicopters as well as from ground artillery and tank cannon since the invasion by Soviet troops in 1979, they said.

No casualty figures were available but the diplomats quoted their sources as saying the smell of death hung over the village.

Refugees from the area have been arriving in Ka-

bul, they said, and many women and children injured in the bombing have crowded the capital's civilian hospitals.

The diplomats said Soviet troops entered the village during lulls in the bombing, which lasted from Oct. 12 to 17, and sought out the houses of Muslim resistance forces known to be fighting against the Soviet-backed government.

They appeared to have detailed information about which houses they should search and later set them on fire, the diplomats said.

Meanwhile, Afghan President Babrak Karmal was reported to have returned on Monday or Tuesday from a secret visit to Moscow to discuss an imminent reshuffle of his government with Soviet leaders.

Mr Karmal left Kabul on Oct. 10. Official Afghan sources did not deny the report.

CSO: 4600/128

AFGHAN CHILDREN REPORTEDLY BAYONETTED BY SOVIETS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 26 Oct 83 p 16

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Tues. — Survivors claimed Soviet soldiers bayoneted more than a dozen children and indulged in an "orgy of looting" in a major offensive that wiped out half a town of 2,500 people north of Kabul, Western diplomats said today.

In another attack by anti-communist fighters near Afghanistan's western city of Herat, bordering Iran, fighters shot down a Soviet helicopter, killing a visiting Russian general, a diplomat said.

"The village of Istalef is reported more than 50 per cent destroyed," one diplomat said of the Soviet air and ground attack on Istalef, a town famous for its blue pottery, located 35km north of the Afghan capital. They said the village was pounded by Soviet fire for five straight days beginning from Oct 12.

Diplomats could not provide a firm death toll but said the "lowest estimate" placed the casualty count at several hundred.

"Many (villagers) are still buried in the rubble," a diplomat said. She said the victims were "mainly women and children."

Diplomats said Muslim fighters avenging the attack killed from 30 to 36 Soviet soldiers and destroyed about 15 Russian armoured personnel carriers near Istalef as of Oct 17. They said fighters captured a smaller number of Soviets alive.

Helicopter

The diplomats said Soviet and Afghan regime troops withdrew from the valley between Oct 19-20 after the biggest offensive by the Soviets in the region since they invaded Afghanistan in December 1979.

"Survivors claim over 12 children were bayoneted by Soviet troops," one diplomat said. "Survivors say Soviet soldiers indulged in an orgy of looting, taking money, jewellery, drugs and food and the occasional television set."

Fighters near the western city of Herat, meantime, shot down a Soviet helicopter, killing a Russian general who was visiting Afghanistan, said one diplomat, quoting a "good source." The general was not identified.

Herat, Afghanistan's third largest city, was "mostly in the hands of the fighters, even during the day," one diplomat said.

The diplomats said no major fighting had been reported in Kabul. They said the capital had suffered frequent power blackouts due to the regime's inability to keep generating units running.

AFGHAN LEADER ASKS FOR ARMS 'TO DRIVE SOVIETS OUT'

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 28 Oct 83 p 12

[Interview with Mr Khalilullah Nuristani, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, by Dr Umar Khan Yousufzai, date, place not given]

[Text]

Q: You claim to be the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Do you really have a system of Government?

A: By the grace of Allah, we Afghans control 90 per cent of our country. Only 10 per cent of Afghanistan is under the Russians and their agents — but only during daytime. The Russians always have to move in their tanks.

Our Government has a President — Maulana Mohammed Afzal — and a 13-member consultative group. Each member has a portfolio or Ministry. My duties are in Foreign and Political Affairs. We have Islamic jurisprudence, kadis, and muftis (Islamic judges). We collect usher and zakat. We have agricultural experts, police and armed forces. Every able bodied person must serve the army for six months and everybody serves in rotation. We have a ready force of 150,000 soldiers. Each division has 3,000 soldiers. The rank of Brigadier is our highest army position. Our President is Commander-in-Chief.

Q: The Islamic world and free world support your cause. How do you evaluate their support?

A: There are more than 100,000 Afghan refugees in Pakistan. Forty

per cent of them are children and the rest women, old people and wounded persons. We are thankful to our Muslim brothers like Saudi Arabia and our free world friends, particularly Japan. We are very grateful to Pakistan which is not a rich country but under a courageous and true Muslim President, Zia-ul-Haq. It has openly given us a place to live — temporarily as refugees. All the help in material and money form, unfortunately, do not reach the needy Afghan refugees.

Ruling class

The Iranian-originated ruling class of Afghanistan, now in Pakistan as refugees, are claiming to be the leaders of the refugees. These people steal the aid money. Such people move in big shiny cars in Pakistan, Europe and USA. The aid must reach real needy people. I myself left Afghanistan in 1979 and went to Europe and USA to raise money and other aid for the refugees in Pakistan. Once I sent back US\$300,000. But when I went to Pakistan, I found that not a single dollar was given to the refugees.

What our Muslim brothers and the free world are concentrating on is aid to the refugees, and this help is very noble. But this may en-

courage the refugees to develop the habit of relying on dole.

What is very much needed is help for the freedom fighters to throw out the invaders — the Russians — and to free the country so that our brothers, children and families may come back and live as free people.

Q: But what kind of help do you expect?

A: We appreciate the inability to give us arms. But we need good boots, tents, medicine, canned food (no pork) blankets and financial aid as well. We are a bona fide State. We do hope that the United Nations would give us representation...

Dilemma

Q: But do you represent all of Afghanistan? There are so many organisations of Afghans. Each claims to represent Afghanistan.

A: You are right. This is our biggest dilemma. We have no unity. Had we this unity, the Russians would have left the day they entered our country... but please look at us. Other organisations are representing refugees. We are a Government on our soil. We have freed Nuristan, Panchshir and Badakhshan. We have representatives of several provinces of Afghanistan in our Government. Living the life of a refugee is pitiful. Islam teaches us to stand by principles. If we die — we die as martyrs. From our Muslim brothers we do hope to receive monetary help. We will buy weapons. We have only ten to twelve thousand guns, while we have 150,000 men in the army. How can we fight flying gunships and tanks? We badly need funds for weapons.

Q: The Russians are known not to leave a territory once they occupy it. Japan wants its four

northern islands back from Russia; over 38 years have passed and Russia has not returned them. How do you expect the Russians to leave?

A: We Afghans are less educated (in the Western sense). As Muslims, our life values are different. Maybe Japan is behaving in a gentle manner — a language which the Russians don't understand. Look at this recent inhumane killing of innocent passengers on the Korean Airline jet by the Russians. The Americans and Nato countries are silent. Just a few sanctions on a temporary basis against the Russians will have no result. The Americans and Nato nations are worried about the nuclear weapons of the Russians. The Russians must be taught a lesson. The Russians have, due to their economic problems, come to the extreme edge. Look at the Israelis. They understand only the language of force. I would like to tell my Arab Islamic brothers that brother Yasser Arafat is right in continuing the armed struggle against the Zionists.

Q: Do you think the Russians will leave Afghanistan peacefully?

A: No. The Russians have for long dreamed of reaching the warm waters of the Arabian Sea. They are now on the border of Pakistan. In the narrow strip of Wakhan, the Russians have built an arms factory. These arms are going to terrorists in Pakistan. The Russians are afraid of the Islamisation of Pakistan under Zia-ul-Haq. I am asking all our free world friends and Muslim brothers to help in the defence of Pakistan and to help the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to ward off the Russian menace to the world now. Otherwise it will be too late. We will, by the will of God, pay back all such help.

AFGHAN REFUGEES REPORTEDLY MANIPULATED BY KHOMEYNI REGIME

Penang THE STAR in English 27 Oct 83 p 28

[Text]

PAKIS — A major row is brewing between Teheran and Kabul over the presence of an estimated 1.8 million Afghan refugees in Iran, according to Iranian exile sources here.

The sources say Iran has just approved a plan for raising a guerilla army of 20,000 from among the refugees who, the Afghan Government claims, are being subjected to "systematic harassment and intimidation."

Thousands of refugees have also been recruited for the war against Iraq. Iran says they all volunteered to fight "for Islam." Kabul claims that the recruits were, in fact, press-ganged.

Afghans fighting against Iraq receive a monthly salary of 30,000 rials (\$920) and are taken in for an initial period of six months only, according to the exile sources.

A special Afghans Supervision Office, headquartered in Teheran, handles refugee matters. It is directed by Mehdi Hashemi, a close friend of Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini. At a recent Press conference Hashemi said he aimed to turn the refugees into "a roaring force for Islam" to fight "the heathen communist regime in Kabul."

Most of the refugees are Shi'ites, sharing the same faith as the majority of Iranians. Most of the fighting in Afghanistan has so far been done by Sunnis.

Hashemi wants to change that. His hope is to turn Herat, Afghanistan's largest Shi'ite city, into the "real heart of the resistance."

The pro-Iranian "Afghan Mujahedeen of Islam Organisation" led by Gulbeddin Hekmatyar and the religious teacher Qari Yekdast, already made a show of force by seizing control of Herat for a few days last summer.

The group has training camps in the Iranian border villages of Teezbud, Mulla-Hassan and Paryan. Both regular army and Revolutionary Guards' officers are involved in the training of the Afghan freedom fighters, according to Teheran reports.

Moscow Radio, which has adopted a measured tone even when talking about communist leaders imprisoned in Iran, gives free rein to its passions when it comes to Afghanistan. In a Persian-language broadcast last month the radio accused Iran's ruling mullahs of "alliance with bandits in

Afghanistan" and warned Teheran of "dire consequences."

Until last July Afghan resistance fighters were not allowed to cross into their country directly from Iran. In July, however, a number of unauthorised crossings took place. The Afghans and their Soviet allies retaliated by shelling two Iranian border posts.

According to information monitored by Iranian and Afghan exile sources in France, new operations in the Herat region are being planned for the next few months. The aim is to upstage pro-West resistance organisations which dislike the pro-Khomeini forces as much as President Babrak Karmal's Government in Kabul.

Thousands of Afghans working as members of various guards in Iran have been given "extended leave" and told to enrol in the Mujahedeen of Islam's new units now being formed.

Iranian and Afghan observers here believe that the stage is being set for a more direct Teheran-Kabul confrontation within the next few months with Moscow nervously watching developments.

DOHA HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON RETURN FROM NEW YORK

Activities Described

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr A. B. Shams-ud-Doha told newsmen on Monday that the current General Assembly session of the United Nations had attached paramount importance to the prevailing world economic situation. There was an unprecedented awareness about the international economic situation in the U.N. session, he observed.

Stating his observations on the current U.N. Assembly session Foreign Minister Mr. Doha who led the Bangladesh delegation there told newsmen at a Press conference that the member countries of the world body had once again realised that the United Nations despite its limitations was indispensable for world peace and understanding. The current UN Assembly session assumed importance as it was being held in the back drop of Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi, Group of 77 meeting in Argentina and UNCTAD-VII meeting in Belgrade. About 30 heads of state or Government from North and South had attended the Assembly. he informed.

Besides attending the Assembly session, the Foreign Minister said that he had about 69 bilateral meetings with other Foreign Ministers or heads of the delegations attending the UN Assembly session. He termed all these meetings as very satisfactory. He also attended OIC Foreign Ministers' meeting Non-aligned Foreign Minister's meeting and presided over a meeting of the G-77. As a member of the Al-Qudi Committee attended a meeting which was presided over by King Hassan of Morocco.

Mr. Doha said that Lebanon, Palestine, Namibia, South Africa and Afghanistan issues got prominence in the discussions in the Assembly session. As the outgoing Chairman of the G-77, Bangladesh had the responsibility of voicing the views of the Third World on the world economic situation he said. He informed that the G-77 had taken a two-way approach to guide the United Nations to hold a North-South meeting on those issues where agreement was reached and leave other contentious issues for resolution later. For a fruitful North-South dialogue he said that the exercise of the political will of the member countries was a paramount need.

Asked about the prospect of a North-South summit for a new international economic order the Foreign Minister replied "the prospect is bleak".

Replying to a question, the Foreign Minister said that Bangladesh's stand on disarmament was unambiguous. He said that Bangladesh always had advocated to shun arms race and divert the money for development and she believed that lesser the tension between the superpowers bigger was the chance for world peace.

Asked to comment on the recent Soviet proposal on disarmament the Foreign Minister said that Bangladesh reserved its comment on the proposal of any superpower on the issue and the country viewed it as entirely an East-West issue.

Referring to the Lebanese issue the Foreign Minister said that Bangladesh had demanded withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon and allow the Lebanese people to decide their own future without any outside interference. Bangladesh had demanded withdrawal of all non-Lebanese foreign troops from the soil of Lebanon for a peaceful solution of the issue, he said.

About the Iraq-Iran war the Foreign Minister regretted that the fratricidal war between the two Muslim countries could not be stopped. He was in favour of continuing the peace efforts to end the war.

Relations With Neighbors

WOLA THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Oct 83 p 1

[West] Foreign Minister Mr. A. P. Shams-ud Doha on Monday reiterated Bangladesh's desire to have good relations with her neighbours including India.

Addressing a Press conference, the Foreign Minister said that he had visited the capitals of the neighbouring countries and discussed with his counterparts bilateral relations during the last few months. He had also discussions with the Foreign Ministers of the member-countries of the South Asian regional cooperation (SARC) in New York during the UN Assembly session, he added.

Asked to comment on the escalation of tension between Bangladesh and India centering the barbed wire, fencing issue the Foreign Minister said that General Ershad had given his views on the issue and Bangladesh was awaiting an official communication from India.

The Foreign Minister said that Bangladesh and India had a number of outstanding problems to be resolved bilaterally. He said that the dialogue on the sharing of the Ganges water and other common rivers was continuing. All efforts should be made to inject momentum to the negotiation he stressed. There was no scope to be impatient he reminded all.

Candidacy for OIC

Dhaka TEL BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Oct 72 pp 1, 12

[Text] Foreign Minister Mr A. R. Shams-ud Doha on Monday dispelled speculations about Bangladesh's candidacy for the post of the OIC Secretary-General saying 'I am still a candidate'.

Replying to a question about his candidature at a Press conference, Mr. Doha said that the Secretary-General of the OIC was not chosen by election but by a consensus among the member-countries. He said that though the election of the OIC Secretary-General was in the agenda of the OIC Foreign Ministers' Conference to be held in Dhaka in December he favoured the issue to be resolved in the OIC summit to be held in Morocco in January. He said it would be embarrassing for Bangladesh to go through the process of choosing the next OIC Secretary-General in Dhaka. He, however, said that if other Foreign Ministers of the 42-member countries of the OIC insisted on holding the election in Dhaka, he would not have any objection.

The Foreign Minister said that the tenure of the present OIC Secretary-General Mr Habib Chatti would end this year.

CSO: 4600/1199

HEAVY LOSS DUE TO MISHANDLING OF EAST BLOC TRADE

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 30 Oct 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] The strong bias of the corporate officials against import under barter from the eight East European countries of the Warsaw bloc and subsequent non-utilisation of import allocations has incurred a heavy loss of over 2.2 billion Taka (222.3 crore) during last decade (1973-83).

This was revealed by Mr. K. M. Matin, a research fellow of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) in his paper "problems and prospects of trade with socialist bloc" which was presented at on going sixth annual conference of Bangladesh Economic Association yesterday. In the second working session on structure of trade and payments," Mr Sadrul Reza, Dr. Ataul Huq, Sultan H. Rahman, Mr. Ershadullah Khan, Mr Belayet Hossain, Dr. Saleuddin Ahmed, Mustafa Abdur Rahman also presented their papers. Dr. Solaiman Mondal of Rajshahi University presided over the session.

In his paper Mr. Matin, criticised the Government for the most inefficient handling of the barter trade with the socialist bloc and described it as the grossest form of misallocation of scarce foreign exchange resources. He, however, said that barter could be a significant instrument for financing Bangladesh imports. The gradual decline of barter's share in financing imports suggests that policy makers either by accident or design ignored the potential of barter trade.

Mr. Matin opined that the non-utilisation of share and the bias against import under barter had no logical ground, because such bias was not due to low quality of unacceptable specifications of imports from socialist bloc. He also maintained that ptems like kerosene, diesel, cement, fertiliser, raw cotton, big iron, billets, oil seeds and coal usually did not substantially differ in respect of quality and acceptability from the import of same items of the western countries.

Mr. Matin, in his study, has shown that import worth nearly 300 million dollars could be procured under barter trade, through efficient handling. He underscored the need for appreciation of full extent cost by separately examining the trade balances under cash and barter. Mr. Matin's paper also revealed another information regarding the tendency of imports under cash rather than under barter. He found export surpluses under barter are nearly 70 per cent higher than total export.

ENA INTERVIEWS NORWEGIAN VISITOR ON BANGLADESH AID

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Norway has committed 25 million dollars aid to Bangladesh for the year 1984. During the current year she has disbursed 21 million dollars aid for this country.

This was stated by Formed Petter Svennevig, leader of Norway's country programme delegation now visiting Bangladesh at an exclusive interview with ENA.

Mr. Petter who is the Director-General for Development Cooperation in the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stated his country has indicated its willingness to provide annual aid to the tune of 25 million dollars to Bangladesh for next four years starting from the next year.

He said Norway is helping Bangladesh in certain selective areas like Inland Water Transport, Health and Family Planning rural works programme, small scale industries etc. In the Inland Water Transport sector Norway is extending navigational aid to Bangladesh, besides helping her to study river courses, improve shipping and build pontoons etc. In there sectors like health and family planning, rural works programme and small scale industries Norway is directly placing fund with Bangladesh Government to utilise it any manner it deems fit. In small scale industries sector Norway is providing aid to Bangladesh with the objectives of setting up small industrial units in this country run and managed mainly by women.

During his current visit Mr. Petter had been to Faridpur to see for himself the construction of embankments, water dams and roads etc there. These are the projects in which Norwegian aids are involved. He said he was satisfied with the progress of work on those projects. He would see some other projects aided by his country. He said he is carrying back home good impression of the projects being aided by his country and of the proper utilisation of funds placed by his country with the Government of Bangladesh.

CSO: 4600/1256

TRADE AND TRANSIT AGREEMENTS WITH BHUTAN INOPERATIVE

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 7 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Article by Hassan Abul Quasem]

[Text] The trade and transit agreements between Bangladesh and Bhutan have been remaining inoperative owing to the Indian denial for providing land transit facilities for carrying commodities to and from Bangladesh.

Both these agreements were signed in September 1980 with a view to expanding bilateral cooperation in economic, technical and cultural fields between the two countries. The economic cooperation envisaged the export of 33 items of Bhutan to Bangladesh and 23 items from Bangladesh to Bhutan. Under the arrangement Bangladesh was supposed to import minerals and chemicals, gypsum, graphite, copper, dust coal, pensil slate, timber products, potato seeds, orange and apple, ginger and dry chillies etc. while she was supposed to export newsprint and paper products, hosiery products, tobacco, pharmaceutical products and medicine, molasses and jute carpet etc.

Both the agreements were signed for the duration of ten years.

The protracted negotiations between Bhutan and India over the last two years could not produce any tangible results. Besides, the Bhutanese Government expressed its unwillingness to sign a cultural agreement with Bangladesh despite its earlier readiness to sign the same. The draft of the agreement has not been finalised yet.

Under the arrangement, Bangladesh proposed to cater with Bhutanese needs through its television network. The draft also envisaged for providing weather forecasts and documentaries on Bhutan through Bangladesh TV on institutional basis. But it had to abandon the idea of strengthening cooperation with Bangladesh, following the displeasure of the Indian Government.

The special relationship of Bhutan with India and its landlocked position had created serious handicap for her in entering into mutually beneficial cooperation with third countries except India. After the signing of trade and transit agreements with Bangladesh, Indian Commerce Secretary had visited Bhutan and offered more meaningful and beneficial cooperation in more favourable terms than the offer of Bangladesh.

According to a reliable source Bhutan has informed Bangladesh that they have received indication from the Government of India for its possible willingness in providing land transit facilities for Bangladesh-Bhutan trade. It is learnt that India has proposed for entering into new trade agreement prior to its enjoyment of transit facilities for carrying bilateral trade with Bangladesh.

There are also indications as to the Indian reservation for providing transit facilities over its land route. India had information that Bangladesh is going to provide an alternative route for Bhutan to the outside world.

Bhutan has special relationship with India under the 1949 treaty. Under the treaty Bhutan has to seek advice in entering into any sort of cooperation with a third country. Accordingly, the Bhutanese King observed silence regarding an invitation for paying a visit to Bangladesh, despite the fact that the King earlier expressed his keen interest in visiting Bangladesh.

Bangladesh in turn also offered cooperation in air-services agreement with Bhutan. Bhutan, however, opted for tripartite agreement on the issue with a view to formalising overflight facilities given by Bangladesh to Durk Air. Bhutan will initiate and coordinate action regarding air cooperation.

Bangladesh is the second country in which Bhutan has a diplomatic mission. India provides 80 percent grant for economic development and 95 percent of her external trade are financed by India which made it a dependent state and it was described by Bhutan as an imperial legacy of this sub-continent. Bangladesh will discuss exploring of new possibilities as well as the present position of expanding cooperation during the visit of Bhutan's Foreign Minister Mr. Dawa Tsering to Bangladesh. He will arrive in Dhaka tomorrow.

CSO: 4600/1270

AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO YEMEN PRESIDENT

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 1 Nov 83 p 8

[Text] SANA'A, Oct. 31:--Mr. Mohammed Mohsin Ambassador of Bangladesh concurrently accredited to the Arab Republic of Yemen (North Yemen) presented his credentials to President Col. Ali Abdullah Saleh at a function in Sana'a last Wednesday, reports BSS.

While presenting the credentials the Ambassador recalled the ancient relations between the two peoples and the determination of the Government of Bangladesh to further promote and expand these relations. He also referred to the common positions of the two brotherly countries in such international organisations as the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the Non-aligned Movement. He reiterated the total support of Bangladesh under the leadership of the CMLA Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad for the legitimate Palestinian cause.

The President in his reply appreciated that Ambassador Mohsin's presence in Sana'a one of the oldest cities of the world was an expression of the desire of the Government of Bangladesh to bring the two fraternal countries still closer.

The President also told the Ambassador that he had advised his Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Ali Lutf al Thour to personally explore the possibilities of expanding relations between the two countries in as many fields as possible during the North Yemeni foreign Minister's participation in the 14th Islamic Foreign Ministers meeting in Dhaka in the first week of December President Ali Abdullah Saleh also requested the Ambassador to convey his fraternal greetings to the President and the CMLA.

Formal diplomatic relations between Bangladesh and the Arab Republic of Yemen had been established only a few months back and Mr. Mohsin is the first Ambassador of Bangladesh to be accredited to this brotherly country.

CSO: 4600/1260

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES WORLD FOOD DAY SEMINAR

Thaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

[Excerpts] President Justice Ahsanuddin Chowdhury on Sunday called upon the South Asian countries to build a regionally co-ordinated national food security stock to face the food problem of the region like the ASEAN. He felt that cooperation in production technology and its dissemination among the countries of South Asia would be of immense benefit to the region.

Addressing a seminar organised by the National Committee on World Food Day at the auditorium of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council, President Ahsanuddin Chowdhury said that regional cooperation was needed as the under developed countries cannot fully and by itself initiate and sustain efforts to increase food production and adopt measures of food security.

Presided over by Air-Vice Marshal (Retd.) A. G. Mahmud Minister of Food the inaugural session of the seminar was addressed by Mr. Anisuz zaman, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. L. I. J. Silva, FAO representative in Bangladesh and Mr. Mohammed Ali, Secretary, Food Division.

Detailing the measures taken by the Government in solving the food problems of the country, President Ahsanuddin Chowdhury said that it had strengthened the national efforts to increase food production and adopted a rational policy of food distribution. He noted with satisfaction that seed and water-based technology had started bearing fruit and the import gap had been narrowed down.

Speaking on food distribution policy of the Government, he said to stabilise food price, the Government sometimes follow "open market sales" He also listed food for works programme carried out by the Government to help the unemployed labour force in the rural areas. He said these measures are in addition to normal distribution of foodgrains under statutory and modified rationing system for the low-income groups.

Speaking on the efforts of the Government to increase the food production President Ahsanuddin Chowdhury said the Government had been trying to extend irrigation facilities to the farmers and increase the use of chemical fertilizers by them. He also said that the Government was carrying out expansion and storage capacity and strengthening of transport facilities for food movement with the aid from the donors. The government, he said had built up buffer

also, and set up a food monitoring cell under Food Department with the purpose of early warning and intervention.

Referring to the emergency efforts in the international forum, he said Pandit Doshi as a member of the Unaffiliated Movement, U.I.C. and Chairman of the Group of 77 had been consistently stressing the need for increasing flow of aid to strengthen national development efforts of the poor countries in various forums. He also called for diverting a small part of the expenditure on arms and defence towards the developing countries so that they could increase food production and save the lives of hungry millions.

He expressed his pleasure over the worldwide food problem and commended the role of FAO bringing the developed and the developing countries together to work out coordinated plans and programmes to fight poverty and hunger faced by 500 million malnourished people living in the low-income developing countries with a determined determination.

On 10th April 1981, the Minister for Lt. Gen. T. N. Ershad issued a message on the occasion of the World Food Day. It was read out at the seminar by Dr A. S. Thomas, Additional Secretary, Forest and Agricultural Division.

Mr Vice-Chancellor (Retd) Mahmud stressed that poverty, hunger and malnutrition should be declared as today's 'benchmark' in our persistent struggle for their eradication.

In his address of welcome the Agriculture Secretary, Mr Anisuzzaman said the prime aim of observance of the World Food Day was to increase the awareness of the policy makers administrators, producers and consumers of food alike of the food problem that faces the world presently and prospectively.

CHM/13/001/1191

GOVERNMENT PRESS NOTE ON FOOD PRICE INCREASES

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 31 Oct 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] The government yesterday struck a note of warning that authorities might "intervene and adopt suitable measures" to bring down the price of edible oil if the "relevant section of the trade" failed to do so "voluntarily", reports BSS.

In a Press Note here the Commerce Division of the Ministry of Industries and Commerce said the government viewed "with grave concern" the tendency of a section of the trade to take undue advantage of the international market position.

The following is the full text of the Press Note:

'Attention of the Government has been drawn to the recent press reports highlighting increase in the prices of several essential items of consumption, particularly, vegetables, turmeric, onions etc and edible oil. Although slight increase in the price of vegetables at this time of the year is normal, this year supply has also been affected specially because of the recent floods and untimely rainfall. However, with the approach of the winter, situation is expected to improve. In fact, some varieties of winter vegetables have already started coming into the market and the supply situation is expected to vastly improve soon, bringing down the price. Besides, the prices of some vegetables still continue to be reasonable.

As regards edible oil, recently there has been noticeable increase in the price of the items in the international market. However, its impact on the local market now appears to be somewhat premature as procurement of raw materials against currently marketed oil was mostly done earlier at the cheaper prices prevailing then. It is possible that section of the trade is taking undue advantage of the international market situation. Government view this tendency on the part of such traders with grave concern. Government expect that the relevant section of the trade would voluntarily bring down the price to a level justified by actual cost. In the alternative, the authorities may be constrained to intervene and adopt suitable measures.

CSO: 4600/1259

ERSHAD DEPUTY WARNS ANTI-ELECTION AGITATORS

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 29 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

[Text] LALMONIRHAT Oct. 28:--The DCMLA and Minister for Communications Rear Admiral M. A. Khan said here today that the Upazila-based administration of the present government would ensure democracy for the people for the first time in the country reports BSS.

The administrative system would be final and complete with the establishment of leadership of the representatives of the people through election of the local bodies.

Admiral Khan was addressing a cross section of people here today organised by the 18-point Programme Implementation Committee. Presided over by Mr. Nawab Hossain the meeting was also addressed by Secretary of Rangpur district 18-point Programme Implementation Committee Mr Abdul Mannan Khan and Subdivisional Committee Chairman Mr. Md. Ali Ansar.

He said those who were trying to defer the elections of local bodies were actually trying to establish capital-based capitalist power ignoring the fundamental rights of the nine crore people of rural Bangla.

He said the people could realise from past experiences that they were befooled time and again by their political activities. So the right conscious people were now united and ready to foil any conspiracy.

The DCMLA said that 90 percent of the development activities are now village-based to ensure socio-economic development in the rural areas of the country. He said that Taka 200 crore had been allocated for Food for Work Programme and for rural works programmes.

Admiral Khan said that major portion of the Taka 3500 crore development programme would be spent for rural development activities to narrow the gap between the city and village.

He said still 85 per cent of the people of the country were illiterate and 95 per cent of the people did not get pure drinking water.

Cautioning the audience against strike the DCMLA said that anti-people efforts would be resisted.

The DCMLA said that General Ershad had announced the 18-point economic programmes for changing the lot of the people of rural Bangla. He said the basic objective of the programme is to make the independence meaningful through economic progress and to reach the fruits of independence to every door step.

The objective of the programme he said was to ensure the basic needs of the people such as food clothing shelter, education and health and to establish them in a respectable position.

Admiral Khan said that conditions congenial for greater production and stability now exist in the country he said even country like the United States of America, had praised our efforts for nation-building.

He said any chaotic condition could fail our endeavours for economic progress while we were strengthening our national economy with foreign assistance. He said the present rate of production per day was worth Taka one hundred crore and we can not allow the production to suffer at any cost as the citizens are not ready to incur a loss of even Taka one unnecessarily.

The DCMLA said the present government had always been respectful to democracy He said none can give democracy to anyone. Every citizen has the right to determine the framework of democracy to be acceptable.

Admiral Khan said the people of Bangladesh have clearly made it known that they were in favour of people's democracy the democracy of administrative decentralisation. The government will not allow any one to deprive the masses in the name of democracy.

The DCMLA said democracy did not mean the right to undo the efforts to establish people's right. Democracy on the other hand meant the establishment of the dignity of the masses and their freedom.

The DCMLA said the administrative decentralisation would create such democratic conditions in the country which would bring about a permanent end to the long-neglect to the rural people. The basic objectives of democracy seeks to establish such rights he said.

The Government he added had announced the schedule for elections. In the interest of elections and to avoid constitutional complications the presidential elections would be held next year under the suspended constitution.

Admiral Khan said it was quite obvious that free political activities would resume at a suitable time. Every party or every candidate would have the right to express their own points of view.

The DCMLA said in the interest of the people and stability the Government would not hesitate to deal with "strong hand" to suppress any effort to create chaos, lawlessness and indiscipline in the name of democracy when speedy steps are underway for establishing it.

Admiral Khan said no decision would be taken at the plea of a handful of people. Rather decisions would be taken the way people would want it.

The DCMLA said the 18-point programme aimed at equitable distribution of wealth, removal of social injustices and free the country from corruption to build a prosperous Bangladesh. The programme is no longer confined to any section of people or anyone. Nine crore of people have adopted it as their own.

The audience burst into prolonged applause when the DCMLA was referring to the 18-point programme. He earlier addressed similar function of 18-point implementation committee at Parbatipur.

CSO: 4600/1256

FIFTEEN-PARTY ALLIANCE PROTESTS ELECTION PLANS

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 29 Oct 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] The 15-party alliance in a statement yesterday expressed resentment at an official announcement to hold the Presidential election ignoring the demand of holding the parliamentary polls prior to all other elections made by "the entire nation unitedly".

They also denounced that the announcement was not made on the soil of the country, but on the soil of an alien country.

According to the 15-party alliance, the main reason for the overall crisis now prevailing in the country is absence of an elected people's representative government and continued debate on the constitution of the country.

In these circumstances all major political parties unanimously demanded holding of parliamentary polls prior to all other elections to solve all problems, the alliance stated.

It continued that an elected parliament should be entrusted with the responsibility of taking decisions on all important national issues relating to peaceful transfer of power to the elected people's representative government and the constitution.

It maintained that there was no alternative to parliamentary election in the present situation and anybody could comprehend the rationale and pragmatic stand of the 15-party alliance and 7-party combine.

'The statement once again reiterated the demand for acceptance of the alliance's 5-point programme without further delay.

CSO: 4600/1257

FIFTEEN-PARTY ALLIANCE DETERMINED TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAM

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 30 Oct 83 pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] The 15-party alliance yesterday expressed its determination to carry forward its action programme through peaceful means in spite of what is described as provocations by official quarters against it.

In a statement issued yesterday the alliance sounded a note of warning that there would be grave consequences if the authorities resorted to a policy of repression and their lackeys unleashed a reign of terror to foil its action programme.

The alliance, however, expressed hope that the official quarters would show restraint in the use of their words and keep their lackeys under control.

It called upon its workers to remain quiet in the face of all provocations and make a success of its action programme.

In the same statement the alliance issued a call to the people to build up a resistance movement against the alarming rise in the prices of essentials.

It attributed the price-rise to the failure of the government and condemned it in strong terms.

It said that the prices of all items of daily essentials including rice and pulses, oil and spices, vegetables, medicine and baby food had shot up to a level beyond reach of the people. In these circumstances it is difficult to keep tight-lipped, the alliance added.

The alliance leaders yesterday launched mass contact campaigns in different parts of the city to make a success its action programme. They approached the pedestrians and shopkeepers at Mouchak, Bangla Motor, Green Road, Green Supermarket and Farm Gate.

CSO: 4600/1258

AWAMI LEAGUE-HASINA RESOLUTIONS REPORTED

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 7 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] Central working committee of Awami League (Hasina) in a resolution yesterday said that struggling people of the country by observing hartal on November 1 had 'rejected martial law' and given their verdict in favour of restoration of democracy.

Presided over by party chief Sheikh Hasina, the emergency meeting of the working committee said that it had been proved through observance of hartal that any sort of intimidation, threat and harassment could not suppress the conscious people of the country.

The meeting expressing its solidarity with the 5-point demand of the 15-party alliance and the 7-party combine as well other political programmes demanded unconditional release of all who had been arrested in connection with the November 1 hartal.

The working committee in another resolution described CMLA General Ershad's remarks about the politicians as objectionable and derogatory and said that nobody should forget that the politicians gave leadership to the Liberation War. "Without politics and politicians Bangladesh could not come into being it observed.

The meeting urged General Ershad to refrain from such remarks about the politicians.

The meeting said that General Ershad had announced presidential election during his US visit when the consensus of the progressive forces on the issue of Jatiya Sangsad election prior to any other polls had turned into national consensus. Terming the announcement as shameful, the meeting said that the people won't accept such an undemocratic decision.

The meeting has been adjourned till 10 a.m. today.

CSO: 4600/1270

HASINA MAKES STATEMENT ON OPPOSITION HARRASSMENT

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 7 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina Wazed has expressed grave concern over what she said arrests and harassment of students, workers and political leaders in the country centering the hartal observed on November 1 at the call of 15-party alliance.

In a statement last night, she said that General secretary of Feni district Awami League Mr. Joynal Hazari was arrested a few days before hartal day and police took acting President of Jessore district Awami League Mr. Tabibur Rahman and over hundred political workers, students and workers of Dhaka and Khulna in custody on hartal day.

Hasina alleged that police severely tortured Jessore Awami League district leader Mr Tabibur Rahman following which he was seriously injured. He is now at the jail hospital for treatment. She demanded immediate release of Mr. Tabibur Rahman, Mr. Joynal Hazari and other detenus in different jails of the country.

CSO: 4600/1270

PRO-RAZZAK AWAMI JUBO LEAGUE DISMISSES LEADERS

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Oct 83 pp 1, 12

[Test] The pro-Razzak faction of Awami Jubo League at a meeting on Monday relieved seven office-bearers of the organisation of their responsibilities and asked them to show cause by October 24 failing which they will be treated as expelled from the organisation.

They are: Mr Amir Hussain Anu, Chairman, Mr. Mohammad Nasim Mr ABM Mohiuddin Choudhury and Mr. Mostafa Mohsin Manto, Members of the Presidium Mr. Khaled Khurram, Joint Secretary, Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim, Publicity Secretary and Mr Nurul Majid Munayun, Cultural Secretary

The meeting nominated Syed Rezaur Rahman a senior member of the Presidium as Acting Chairman of the organisation.

This action is in retaliation of the similar action taken by pro-Hasina faction of the organisation recently.

The Central Committee in a resolution also decided to hold the third Congress of the organisation on December 9 and 10. Syed Rezaur Rahman, presided over the meeting, says a Press release.

CSO: 4600/1190

PIR OF ATROSHI ISSUES STATEMENT ON POLITICAL SITUATION

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 31 Oct 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] The Pir of Atroshi yesterday describing the present situation as critical said that national leaders by their united efforts, mutual understanding and consensus can save the country from the crises.

The spokesman of the Pir, Mr Rashidul Hassan, who is also his son-in-law read out a statement on his behalf at a crowded press conference at the Jatiya Press Club.

The Pir Shahib who had a large number of followers in all sections of people said "a democratic government that will uphold the rights of the people should be established in the country by removing all crises."

The statement said, "the present transitional period is also a critical juncture for the nation. Today every conscious citizen will have to realise what is the direction of thinking of Pir Shahib in the present social, economic, cultural and political contest."

The spokesman expressing solidarity with the hopes and aspirations of the people announced a 7-point programme which he called "people's general agreement" of the Biswa [word indistinct] Manzil, of which Pir Shahib is the architect.

When asked what he means by crisis, the spokesman said the crisis is deep and fundamental.

The written statement said, "the nation can be saved from the imminent danger through combined efforts". "Effort of a single party or a particular shade of opinion cannot solve the national problems being faced by the country, it said.

In reply to a question the spokesman said, "The Pir Shahib himself will not take any initiative on the basis of the programme for a national consensus. Any body political leader or even the CMLA--can take the initiative for a national consensus, may be, at a round table conference".

When asked whether the Pir Shahib had any difference of opinion with the CMLA, the spokesman said, "the question does not arise as the CMLA, who is a murid

(follower) of Pir Shahib visits him from time to time only for spiritual satisfaction.

The spokesman reserved his comment when asked whether he wanted withdrawal of Martial Law, but reiterated the commitment to a democratic form of Government.

When asked, "do you support the November 1 programme of the 15-party and the 7-party alliances," the spokesman said in reply our programme is a totally separate one, but it may coincide with others'."

The spokesman replied in negative that the Pir Shahib had any action programme to implement the programme, but said that he would let the people know about the follow-up programme in near future.

Replying to a question whether the Pir Shahib would involve himself in politics, the spokesman said, "his involvement in the democratic process is clear from the announcement of the 7-point programme. But he said that Pir Shahib had no plan to float any political party.

The spokesman denied that the Pir Shahib had any contact with the political leaders recently, but he admitted that many political leaders, high military and civil officials often visited him for their spiritual attachment and sought "do' a" of the huzur-e-pak.

The spokesman said that a chronic political instability had been prevailing in the country due to moral erosion, lack of democratic institutions and a strong economy.

The 7-point frameworks of Biswa Zaker Manzil are: Resistance to erosion of moral values through religious and spiritual regeneration and reflection of true ideals of Islam in all spheres of life.

Clear identification of national objectives in political, economic and cultural fields.

Establishment of national unity through the establishment of democratic system of administration and inculcation of political tolerance.

Assurance of equal rights to all citizens irrespective of caste, creed and establishment of rule of law, justice and fundamental rights by overcoming the constitutional crisis.

A solemn pledge by all people and parties irrespective of their political affiliations to preserve the sanctity, sovereignty and inviolability of constitution.

--Pursuance of a foreign policy conducive to the preservation of national independence and sovereignty and establishment of world peace and Pursuance of people's welfare economic policy and removal of disparity.

CSO: 4600/1259

REPORT ON EDUCATION MINISTER'S SPEECH TO UNESCO MEET

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 1 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] PARIS, Oct. 31:--Bangladesh today called for diverting we rid resources for solution of basis problems of mankind and drew special international attention towards helping the Least Developed Countries (LDC's) realise their goals of economic emancipation and socialal justice reports BSS

Education Minister Dr Abdul Majeed Khan addressing the 22nd session of the general conference of UNESCO here said with about 260 million population the LDC's suffered from serious lack of physical and economic infrastructure very low literacy rate and a extremely low level of per capita income.

The Minister who is heading a nine-member Bangladesh delegation said it was most unfortunate that on the plea of strengthening national security 'the militarily significant countries' had embarked on programmes of accelerated armsment race which 'undoubtedly resulted in social opportunity costs the impact of which is felt both in the developed and developing world.

The Education Minister described education and culture as 'essential for consolidation of national independence and the achievement of economic self-reliance.' The positive achievements of science technology and know how in realising human wellbeing education is the best investment and most cost effective form.

The development of education and culture should pursue the principles of national self-reliance cooperation and amity among all nations the Education Minister said adding it should be developed in accordance with hopes and aspirations of the people and on the basis of a nation's own socio-cultural heritage and background.

Turning to Bangladesh, the Education Minister said the old education system was not only out-moded but also totally non-sensitive to the requirement of the development of trained manpower. The new Education Policy announced by the present Government was aimed at the development of national manpower for industrial and technological uplift, he added.

Dr. Khan said the Bangladesh Government was determined to introduce compulsory education upto five years and raise the universal basic education level to eight years by 1987. Simultaneously different kinds of vocational and technical education from the very beginning of the secondary level will be emphasised he added.

Dr. Khan reiterated Dhaka's demand for establishment of a regional or sub-regional office of UNESCO in Bangladesh and stressed that this proposal should be considered in the interest of South Asia region.

He said Bangladesh had accepted the UNESCO proposal in principle to set up an experimental rural community radio station on the experience of Homa Bay Project of Kenya and stressed the need for a 30 k.w. transmitter for BSS, the national new agency of Bangladesh. An agreement is already there between Bangladesh and UNESCO for such a transmitter to connect BSS with District Headquarters with teleprinter links.

Dr. Khan emphasised the urgent need for larger allocation to UNESCO to enable it to assist the developing countries with infrastructure, hard and soft wares research and training support and national, regional and international cooperation in communication.

The Education Minister on October 29 met the leader of the Ismailia community Prince Karim Aga Khan who assured him all possible assistance to Bangladesh in the development of health education and culture. Prince Aga Khan also assured him to assist Bangladesh in evolving the role of non-governmental professional organisation in support of national development.

The Minister during the ninety minute talks with Prince apprised him of various measures taken by the Government to develop the country particularly the Education Sector. The Government was now anxious to restructure the education system so as to maintain its liberal orientation and making it relevant for the training of cadres to carry out national development he said.

Earlier on his way to Paris the Education Minister held talks with West Bengal Education Minister Kanti Biswas in Calcutta and Federal Minister of Education Sheila Kaul in New Delhi. Mrs Kaul and Dr. Khan agreed on further strengthening of bilateral ties between Bangladesh and India.

The 22nd session of the general conference of UNESCO which began here on October 25 was inaugurated by President Francois Mitterrand.

Bangladesh is contesting for the membership to the Executive Board of UNESCO elections for which will be held on November 5. Bangladesh has nominated Dr. Khan as its candidate for the post.

CSO: 4600/1260

JOURNALISTS UNION CONCERNED OVER PRESS FREEDOM

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 31 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) at an emergency meeting in Dhaka on Saturday expressed grave concern at the "continued restriction" on the publication of news and reiterated its demand for press freedom and freedom of speech, reports ENA.

In a series of resolutions adopted at the emergency meeting, the DUJ said such restrictions on news are isolating the mass media from the people and has been creating unnecessary misunderstanding between the journalists community and the people. The journalist community is in no way responsible for this, it said.

The meeting also noted that although "unnecessary restriction" exists internally regarding publication of some news items, such new items are circulated by the foreign media.

It is regrettable that due to "tight control", newspapers in the country cannot publish correct news and people have to rely on foreign media for those it said. This on the one hand creating mistrust of the people in the journalist community of the country and on the other tarnishing the image of the country, the resolution said.

The meeting expressed the opinion that it would be possible for none to improve the situation in the country keeping the press gagged. Moreover, the journalist community cannot but be surprised at such restrictions on the press while it was announced earlier that there was no conflict between the Government's aim of establishing 'genuine democracy' in the country and objective reporting by the mass media, the meeting said.

The meeting called upon the authorities concerned to lift all restrictions on the press to help remove all misunderstanding and mistrust. Otherwise, the journalist community will not bear any responsibility for the failure in representing correct news to the nation, the meeting observed.

CSD: 4600/1259

CHITTAGONG BOARD PLANS AID TO LANDLESS FAMILIES

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 1 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] CHITTAGONG, Oct. 31:--The Chittagong Hill Tract Development Board has worked out a multi-sectoral programme for rehabilitation of 2,000 landless families in the hilly areas at a cost of Taka sixtyfive crore.

The board under this programme will set up board-based infra-structure for long term socio economic development of these families. The Asian Development Bank and UNDP, will give financial support and technical assistance for implementation of this programme.

Of these 2000 families, 1000 families will be rehabilitated at Changi Valley, 500 families at Maini Valley and 500 families at Kassalong Valley. These landless families will be rehabilitated and settled in these valley areas phase by phase.

According to Hill Tract Development Board, each family will get six acres of land for horticulture, rubber plantation and construction of houses. The rehabilitated families will continue to receive technical and other assistance for the first three years of their rehabilitation.

The Chittagong Hill Tract Development Board under this programme will afforest over 18,000 acres of fallow land in Changi Valley construct forty two miles of road, expand health and family planning services among rehabilitated families and develop cottage and rural industries.

The board expect to complete the implementation of this multi-sectoral programme by 1989. The works of this programme have already been taken up for implementation.

CSO: 4600/1260

NEWS

LOAN FROM JAPAN--Japan has pledged to provide Bangladesh with loans amounting to 27.5 billion yen (approximately Taka 275 crore) as commodity and project loan for financial year 1983, says a Press release of the Japanese Embassy in Dhaka on Thursday, reports BSS. Out of this amount, 16.82 billion yen (approximately Taka 168.2 crore) will be utilized by the Government of Bangladesh for procurement of industrial commodities and the remaining 10.68 billion yen (approximately Taka 106.8 crore) will be utilized for the implementation of the Kaptai hydro-electric Power Plant project (Phase II). Japan extended a loan of 4 billion yen (approximately Taka 40 crore) last year for the implementation of the first phase of the Kaptai Hydro-electric Plant project. The loans will be made available after the two governments sign the relevant exchange of notes in due course, the Press release said. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 22 Oct 23 p 1]

IRAQI ENVOY--Mr Tariq Abdul Jabbar Jawad, Ambassador designate of the Republic of Iraq to Bangladesh, arrived in Dhaka on Tuesday to take up his assignment, a Foreign Office Press release said on Wednesday, reports BSS. Born in 1941 Mr Jawad graduated in English language in 1966. He began his diplomatic career in 1974 and served the Iraqi missions in Tehran and Tarmanshah. Prior to his present assignment, Mr Jawad was Ambassador of Iraq in Dhaka since May 1980. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Oct 22 p 1]

ZAMBIAN ENVOY'S CREDENTIALS--The new High Commissioner of Zambia to Bangladesh, Mr. Ariel Mitiya Phiri, presented his credentials to the President Mr. Justice Mohammad Ali Chowdhury at the Bangabhaban in Dhaka on Wednesday morning, says BSS. Presenting the credentials the envoy said that relations between his country and Bangladesh were based on mutual understanding and friendship and added that during his tenure he would try to further consolidate and promote the same to the mutual benefit of both the countries. The envoy conveyed to the President the greetings of the President of Zambia. The President reciprocated the sentiments expressed by the envoy and hoped that the cordial relations existing between the two countries would gain in strength in future. He conveyed his best wishes for the personal health and happiness of the President of the Republic of Zambia and for the continued peace and prosperity of the friendly people of Zambia. He assured the envoy of all possible cooperation and assistance in discharging his responsibilities on behalf of his mission. Earlier on arrival the envoy took a salute presented by a smartly

turned-out contingent of the President's Guard Regiment and inspected the Guards. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 20 Oct 83 p 16]

SUDANESE AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS--The new Sudanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Mr Mohammad El-Hakki Ibrahim presented his credentials to President Mr Justice Ahsanuddin Chowdhury at the Bangabhaban Thursday morning, says PID handout. Presenting his credentials, the envoy said that the relations between his country and Bangladesh was based on religious, cultural and fraternal ties and added that he would put in his best efforts to maintain and promote the same to the mutual benefit of both the nations. Earlier on arrival at the Bangabhaban the envoy took a salute presented by a smartly turned-out contingent of the President's Guard Regiment and inspected the Guards. [Text] [Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 16 Oct 83 p 3]

NEW ORGANIZATION FORMED--The Nutun Bangla Krishak Samaj was formed in Dhaka recently with Principal Md. Lutfur Rahman as Chairman and Mr. Md Goham Sarwar as Secretary/General reports BSS. Other officer-bearers of the 31 member Central Committee are Joint Secretary-General Advocate Khondaker Siddique Rahman and Organizing Secretary Major (Retd) Abdur Rashid. The Nutun Bangla Krishak Samaj at a meeting held in Dhaka felicitated General Ershad on his assumption of the chairmanship of the central bodies of 18-point implementation councils. The meeting was presided over by Principal Lutfur Rahman Chairman of the Central Committee. It expressed its total support to and solidarity with the able and dynamic leadership of General Ershad and the 18-point programme, the Magna-Charta of our economic emancipation charter to our survival. In a statement issued to Press on Saturday the Nutun Bangla Krishak Samaj further said the 18-point programme contains the real emancipation of the farmers who constitute 20 per cent of the total population from poverty hunger illiteracy. It pledged to work for full implementation of the programme in order to build a self-reliant and prosperous Bangladesh. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 16 Oct 83 p 1]

APPOINTMENT TO PHILIPPINES--The Government had decided to appoint Mr. Harunur Rashid, at present High Commissioner for Bangladesh to Australia as Bangladesh Ambassador to the Philippines. Foreign Ministry announcement said Sunday, reports BSS. Born on April 1, 1934; Mr. Rashid obtained B. A. Honours and A. A. Degrees in English literature from Dhaka University in 1956 and 1957 respectively. He called to Lincoln's Inn as Barrister-at-Law in 1960 and attended a course in international law in the Netherlands. He joined the erstwhile Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Deputy Legal Adviser (Deputy Secretary) in July 1967 and appointed Legal Adviser in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1975. He was appointed Director-General in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1976. From August 1979 to September 1981 Mr. Rashid was Bangladesh Deputy High Commissioner in India, Calcutta. He was Bangladesh Ambassador to Nepal since September 1981. Mr. Harunur Rashid is currently High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Australia since May 1982. He is married and has three children. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Oct 83 p 8]

ARRIVAL IN BULGARIA--LOFIA, Oct 23:--Bangladesh Ambassador to Bulgaria Mr. Faruk Hossain presented his credentials to Mr Todor Zhivkov, President of the State Council of Bulgaria, reports BSS. At the ceremony Bulgarian Foreign

Minister Peter Mladenov and Secretary of the State Council Nikolai Ivanov were also present. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Oct 83 p 8]

VISITORS TO PRC--A five-member literary and artists delegation led by eminent poet Sanaul Haq left Dhaka on Sunday for Beijing on a fortnight-long visit to China at the invitation of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles (CFLAC) reports BSS. Before his departure poet Haq told newsmen that the delegation would exchange views with the Chinese writers and artists, the exchange of cultural experiences between the two friendly countries would have positive results, he added. The delegation leader referred to the age-old relations between Bangladesh and China since the visit of Buddhist scholar Atish Dipankar Srijan to China in the 11th Century and the Chinese traveller Fa-Hien to Bangladesh and said the basis of friendly relations between the two peoples was laid thousands years ago. The visits of various delegations he said would help maintain contacts and reaffirm deep and growing friendship and understanding between the two countries. Mr Haq, who is also Chairman of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha said both Bangladesh and China have had the common experience of exploitation by colonial powers and achieving independence through armed struggle. The members of the delegation include Mr Zillur Rahman Siddiqui Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, Prof. Razia Khan. A novelist Syed Shamsul Haq, a litterateur and Mr Abdul Muktedir a painter. The CFLAC established in 1949, is the united organisation of various artists' associations as well as its branches in all the provinces cities and autonomous regions of China. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Oct 83 p 3]

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE OPPOSED--Two leaders of BNP (Huda) in a statement on Saturday said the threat to launch civil disobedience movement by an elderly political leader amounted to a terrorist move against a government in an independent country.' The leaders who issued statement were Mr Mahbubul Haq Dular and Mr Abdul Ismail Chowdhury Joint Secretary and Office Secretary respectively of BNP (Huda). They said that when the nation which was waiting for a transition to a democratic process from Martial Law was concerned over the efforts to foil restoration of democratic life in the country. The BNP (H) leaders felt that such statements by some leaders and political parties during past few days were not helping in creating a democratic atmosphere in the country. They observed that announcement of a definite date for holding presidential election and withdrawal of all restrictions on open political activities would help to get rid of the present state of affairs.' [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Oct 83 pp 1, 8]

INDIAN FENCE--Mr Manindra Nath Sarker and Mr Dulal Biswas President and General Secretary respectively of Bangladesh Hindu Juba Kalyan Samity have warned that the barbed wire fencing along the border carried through will exist as a symbol of permanent enmity between Bangladesh and India. Expressing their surprise over the comments of the Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi at a recent press conference the youth leaders described the remarks as insulting towards a friendly country and said that the argument in favour of barbed wire fencing was ridiculous despite the denial by the Assam Chief Minister that there was no infiltration. The youth leaders requested the Indian Government

to desist from an act which would be considered as unfriendly by the people of Bangladesh. Mr Rafiqul Haq Hafiz Convener Natun Bangla (New Bangla) in a statement on Monday condemned the Indian decision of barbed wire fencing on the Bangladesh-India border. Criticising the decision as one sided Mr Hafiz said that this Indian Government was trying to divert the attention from the increasing disturbances inside the Indian states. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 23 Oct 83 p 3]

CONCERN OVER KASHMIR--SPINAGAP, October 25: The prime minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, is reported to have expressed concern over the growth of certain dangerous trends in Jammu and Kashmir which, if unchecked, would endanger the interests of the state as also of the whole country. Mrs. Gandhi told a deputation of state Congress (I) functionaries, who met her in New Delhi, yesterday, that the activities of anti-national, communal and secessionist elements 'are a matter of concern.' The deputation, which consisted of 22 senior partymen discussed political, economic and organisational matters with the prime minister for more than an hour. She asked the party to counter and defeat the designs of these elements which were striving to erode the fundamental principle of secularism and the unity and integrity of the country. The deputation assured Mrs. Gandhi that the Pradesh Congress (I) unit would do its best to check 'communal and anti-national elements. It expressed the view that the ruling party in the state (National Conference) was largely responsible for the renewed activities of these elements. It said that the ruling party leadership had openly patronised and joined hands with the secessionist elements, exploited communal sentiments and adopted a posture of confrontation with the Centre for narrow political gains. [Text] [Dhaka THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 26 Oct 83 p 1]

THE ILO--J.D.M.H: Oct. 16: The Islamic Development Bank signed an agreement today to provide 15 million dollars in financing to Bangladesh for the purchase of crude oil, a bank statement said; reports 'center'. The statement gave no further details. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Oct 83 p 1]

JAMAT-I-ISLAM--Jm anti-Indian Bangladesh movement on Sunday it expressed resentment over the move of the Indian government to erect the barbed wire fence along Bangladesh-India border. In a resolution passed at the session of its central 'Shura' (parliament) committee, the party observed that the move was aimed to 'create a pretext for Indian interference in the internal affairs of Bangladesh'. The party alleged that India was pursuing a 'highly exploitative attitude towards its neighbours. In another resolution, Jamaat-i-Islami said that the minimum wages for the workers should be announced through the 'Shura' committee. The wages should be fixed after taking in account the market prices of the essential commodities. It further requested that the industrial workers should be allowed to participate freely in trade union activities in conformity with the ILO convention. Asadul Haq Jilani, General Secretary, Bangladesh Jamaat-i-Islami Party, in a statement issued to the Press on Sunday, termed the border fencing move by India as a move to isolate Bangladesh before the world community. [Text] [Dhaka THE OBSERVER in English 17 Oct 83 p 1]

ENVOY TO AUSTRALIA--The government has decided to appoint Major-General (Retd.) Quazi Golam Dastgir, at present Bangladesh Ambassador to Pakistan, as High Commissioner to Australia, an official handout said on Sunday reports BSS. Born on June 1, 1933, General Dastgir had studied in St. Xavier's College, Calcutta and subsequently graduated from Peshwar University, Pakistan. He joined Pakistan Military Academy in February, 1951 and was commissioned in 1953. Later he graduated from Staff College, Quetta and the Infantry School in USA. General Dastgir served as Chief of Logistics in Army Headquarters, Bangladesh Army commanded two Brigades and on promotion to the rank of Major-General in August, 1975 was appointed Director-General, Bangladesh Rifles and remained as such till December 12, 1977 when he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He was ambassador of Bangladesh to Thailand from May 1972 to June 1982 General (Retd) Dastgir is Bangladesh Ambassador to Pakistan since June 1982. He is married and has a son and a daughter. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Oct 83 p 12]

NATIONAL AWAMI ON ELECTIONS--National Awami Party (Muzaffar) on Sunday called for announcing the date of parliament elections to ensure peaceful transition of power and end the existing political problems, reports BSS. In different resolutions adopted at a two-day meeting of its national committee the NAWP(2) said all democratic and progressive force are of one opinion regarding the holding of parliament elections before any other polls. The meeting also called upon the people to lend support to the programme of the Demonstration day called for November 1 by the 15-party alliance. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Oct 83 p 12]

INDIAN FORCE RESENTED--Leaders of different social-political and student organisations in separate statement on Monday expressed concern over the remark by Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi on erection of barbed wire fencing along Bangladesh-India border. Mr. Ziauddin Bablu, General Secretary of JESU and convener of four-point implementation council and Mr. Fehar Hussain Raja, General Secretary of the Parishad in a joint statement on Monday referring to the remarks said that the confirmation by Mrs Gandhi of erection of fencing is disgraceful for us and it amounts to disregarding our sovereignty and independence. They urged the Indian authority to withdraw the decision and called upon our Government to take steps to consolidate our sovereignty and independence. Mr. Abul Eashar, General Secretary of Bangladesh Maidoor Party in a statement held the view that the remarks by Mrs Gandhi amounts to threat to the sovereignty of Bangladesh. He called upon the Government to raise the issue in international forum. Mr. Manindra Nath Sarker, President and Mr. Tulal Biswas, General Secretary of Bangladesh Hindu Jula Kalyan Parishad in a joint statement expressed surprise at such a statement by Mrs. Gandhi. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Oct 83 p 11]

NEW NETHERLANDS ENVOY--Hr H. J Du Marchie Sarvaas, Herman Johannes, has been appointed Ambassador of the Netherlands to Bangladesh it was officially announced in Dhaka on Thursday reports BSS. Born in 1934 Mr. Sarvaas studied in USA and obtained Doctorate in Law from the Lenden University in the Netherlands. As a career diplomat, he held several diplomatic assignments since 1961. Prior to his appointment as Ambassador to Bangladesh, he was Minister Counsellor in the Netherlands Embassy in Washington. Mr. Du Marchie Sarvaas is married. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 4 Nov 83 p 12]

NEW AMBASSADORS NAMED--Mr Mokstapha Cisse has been appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Senegal to Bangladesh with residence in Jeddah reports BSS. Born on August 27 1933 Mr Cisse did his Ph. D in Arabic He was Ambassador of Senegal to Saudi Arabia from 1970 to 72. Subsequently he became Senegalese Ambassador to Cairo and Kuwait. He is a member of the National Council of the Socialist Party of Senegal (government party) Mr Ryszard Fijalkowaki has been appointed Ambassador of Poland to Bangladesh with residence in New Delhi. Born on April 3 1934 Mr Fijalkowaki obtained Master's Degree in Economics. A career diplomat, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1959 He held various important positions till he became polish Ambassador to India. He is also accredited to Nepal and Sri Lanka. He is married.
[Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 1 Nov 83 p 8]

CSO: 4600/1261

ARTICLE ANALYZES REGIME'S 'BLUFF' ON CLOSURE OF HORMUZ STRAIT

Paris ARA in Persian No 3-4, 6 Nov 83 p 4

[Paris ARA in Persian; weekly published by Iranian dissidents]

[Text] Following the announcement of the government of Iran concerning the delivery of five Super Etendard airplanes equipped with Exocet missiles to the Ba'ath regime of Iraq and the bluffing of Saddam Huseyn concerning the attack on Khark Island and Iranian oil resources with these airplanes and halting the export of Iranian oil, which is obviously equivalent to halting the flow of petro-dollars to the treasury of Khomeyni and the severe weakening of the government of the clerics, which provides for all the costs of the war and all the Iranian imports, including foodstuff, spare parts, wheat, rice, oil and machinery, in exchange for those dollars, for several months now, Khomeyni and his supporters in various positions, such as the speaker of the Majlis of the clerics, his one-armed president and other small and large parasites in the various positions of the clerical regime, have been screaming to the Iranian nation and threatening all the foreign governments that if the export of Iranian oil from the Persian Gulf is halted, they will close the straits of Hormuz to the entire world and halt the export of oil from and the entry of goods to the Persian Gulf. These threats have been repeated so many times and have been reported in the mass media of the East and the West so often that they have become like real threats to everyone, such that all the Iranian people and most of the people of the world have come to believe these bluffs. The Iranians are extremely worried (for fear of lack of money and famine) and the foreigners are frightened.

In order to ease the minds of our compatriots and other people of the world, through a detailed, realistic and thorough investigation, we must now see whether the Khomeyni regime, when it says that anything can be expected of it since it does not rely on anyone but itself, is able, realistically and practically, to carry out the vast dimensions of this threat or whether, as always, it counts on a group of the Iranian people and the fear of the industrial governments who are dependent on the Persian Gulf oil and is bluffing with peace of mind and //

Initial value. Essentially, was this threat to be carried out or is it merely a bluff?

In the first place, the threats of Iran concerning the destruction of the Iranian oil facilities and halting the export of Iranian oil must be analyzed in view of past behavior and of what seems best as yet could be possible. The Iraqi military has long been equipped with French air-to-ground and anti-aircraft missiles. For nearly two years, helicopters have been used to fire these missiles which have threatened ships in the entrance of the largest Iranian commercial port (Bandar Khomeini) and its waterway entrance at Fathabad. Thus far, it has hit about 20 commercial ships with these missiles or the Soviet (SA-2) missiles, which are fired from the land (OSA?) aircraft. Some of these ships have been sunk in the waters of Bandar Khomeini. The goal of the Iraqi military in these attacks has been, first of all, the closure of the Bandar Khomeini waterway and the cessation of Iranian exports, of which about 70 percent goes through this port for the remainder 30 percent, 10 percent goes through Bandar Abbas and 20 percent from Bandar Bushahr. Thus far, as a result of the experience of its pilots and its navy personnel, it has not succeeded in doing so. The second is to create in the shipping companies fear of entering the Persian Gulf waters, which has resulted in the increase in insurance premiums on ships. It would appear, however, that shipping companies do not mind their oil ships being sunk in this strait and their being able to recover large amounts in insurance compensation. From the standpoint of human casualties, there have been many, because the crews of the ships are generally prepared for attacks and as soon as a missile strikes, they jump into the water and are immediately rescued by other ships or helicopters.

The reason that these missiles have not yet been able to hit the Iranian oil facilities is that the range and speed of the French Super (Orion) helicopters, which carry the SA-2 missiles, are limited. If they are to be far from their bases, they must usually be destroyed by Iranian fighter planes or anti-aircraft weapons. Therefore, the operation of these French helicopters and missiles has been confined to the vicinity of their base port at Fathabad waterway, because of the close proximity to the oil facilities. It is also true that the helicopters do not have to fly low and slow and can immediately attack the ships entering the Fathabad waterway. They have thus far been successful and the Iranian army has not succeeded in blocking and over the Super (Orion) helicopters.

One more illustration is remarks to the helicopters and coast missiles and the Iraqi army and the Iranian oil facilities, the most important of which is Bandar Khomeini. They have been successful in hitting and have not yet been successful. Therefore, the Iranian navy is not able to

missiles and dozens of bombs have struck Khark Island, but, because they have been far from the oil facilities and residential areas, have only made noises and created terror and have not been beneficial to those who launched them. However, several times, air-to-ground missiles have struck the large oil pier and its command control room, which has significantly damaged the equipment and the external facilities of the pier. But the pier itself has remained unharmed and will remain so in the future, because these small missiles are unable to pierce the large construction made of reinforced concrete and steel. At most, pieces of the reinforced concrete may break, a steel pipe may bend or a hole may be made in an oil pipe. But, in any case, the pier would not be harmed. An example of this was given in the explosions by the Iranian navy of the Al-Badr and Al-Qaibiyeh Piers for Iraqi oil exports in the beginning of the war. Although dozens of kilos of strong explosives were installed and exploded, the pier and docks remained unharmed and are still here and sound. We see that despite all these attacks, which, as mentioned earlier, have been relatively successful, no disruption has occurred in the export of Iranian oil; in fact, their exports have increased. Essentially, oil exportation is not carried out from the Khark Pier, but from another point in the sea. All the pipes which transfer oil from Ordiyyeh and Bachsaran to Khark are subterranean and cannot be destroyed from the air.

Furthermore, there are no pumps along the way, because the natural slope of the land is employed to move the oil.

Therefore, the issue of attacking Khark Island and destroying the oil installations is nothing new; we see the results frequently.

On the other hand, attacking the oil tankers or oil docks, located on its limitations and the responsibility of Iraq towards other countries of the Persian Gulf region, would pollute the entire Persian Gulf if tankers full of oil were to be sunk and, consequently, the export of oil would become impossible for the supporters of Iraq as well. This action does not require the Super Stendard aircraft and may be carried out with the aircraft existent in the Iraqi air force, such as the Mirages or F-4s. Hence, in examining the threat of Iraq, we come to the conclusion that:

1. The issue of the Super Stendard aircrafts and Subroc missiles is nothing serious or new and the Iraqi air force will not be able to do anything out of the ordinary which it has never done before. In receiving the Super Stendard aircrafts, it will merely be strengthened and its strike power increased.

2. Without the export of Iranian oil is impossible, as surely as it was imagined. If we add to the above facts the factor of Iranian air defense, it becomes even more difficult. This is only a bluff by Saddam to frighten and force the Iranian government into peace talks, which they also desire, and is

exchange, they show such a reaction as to want to close the Straits of Hormuz.

Now that we know a little about the enemy's threat and its actual dimensions, let us see to what extent Khomeyni's threat regarding the closure of the Straits of Hormuz is realistic and what he carried out in practice.

The Straits of Hormuz--which, because of its name, most people imagine to be narrow straits, 2000-3000 meters wide, for instance, which can be closed by dropping a few rocks or sinking one ship--is the name of a waterway which lies between the (Balas) and (Bentla) reefs, belonging to Oman and Lark Island, belonging to Iran. It connects the Indian Ocean to the Persian Gulf through the Arabian Sea and the Sea of Oman. The reason for calling it Hormuz stems from the naval superiority of the Portuguese in the 16th century in this region. Their important military center as well as their sea trade center was located at that time on Hormuz Island (located 70 miles to the north of Lark Island and 100 miles southeast of Bandar Abbas). The Portuguese controlled the straits from this island and named them after the island.

This canal is 21 nautical miles (39 km) wide and near Oman, where the coast is rock, it is between 80 and 100 meters deep and, near the Iranian shores, where it is more sloped and [the coast] is made of silt, it is between 20 and 30 meters deep. For this reason, all the ships which enter or exit the Persian Gulf use the waters near the Iranian shores, because of their appropriate depth and presence of the (Yashtal Queen) lightship, which was installed on the (Balas) and (Bentla) reef to help navigation. All these waters are outside the boundaries of Iranian coastal waters and 10 miles from Lark Island. Then, through a western route, they pass through the Islands of Qam and Qam Qam, which belong to Iran, towards their various destinations.

With respect to any of the Islands of Qam and Qam because of the appropriate and safe depths in this area and, if necessary, the area between the Islands of Qam Qam and Qam Qam, which, again, is 10 miles outside Iranian coastal waters from Bandar Abbas. Hence, at no stage is the government of the clerics able to protest because through its coastal limits in terms of its international rights, because they pass through the waters of Oman and Qam Qam and do not transgress Iranian waters. The last point to be taken into consideration is that this waterway is totally international and, unlike the Suez or Panama Canals and the Gibraltar, no country has a legal claim to it. In this section, we carry out our examination under the mere assumption that the clerics decide to declare their coastal waters off limits. Now that we have seen that Khomeyni's threat is realistic in terms of international law to close the Straits of Hormuz, let us examine what this threat does, or allays, the Iranian government from violating

All international rights and laws and declare the closure of the Straits of Hormuz, including Iranian and other coastal waters, with the permission of and a decree from the Imam of Persia. However, we must note that the mere declaration of the closure of the Straits is not sufficient, because, given the interest of the entire world in this area and the Persian Gulf, the decree of the mere sitting, Iran has no value for them. They will order their commercial and oil ships to go through the Straits and leave for their destinations. No marine, curfew, or blockade of sea is great nor any unknown help (contrary to the views of Hormuz (see No 2)) can stop those ships. Besides, they cannot start marches on the sea and they will have to do so in the end to stop the passage of the ships. But what?

A waterway can be closed in two ways to stop the passage of some or all ships. First, there is the indirect or passive way and, second, the direct or active way. With the indirect or passive way, if the width and depth of the waterway is small (such as the Suez Canal), it can be closed completely by sinking one or two ships so that no other ship, even one's own, may pass through. This cannot be done in the Straits of Hormuz, because to sink a canal which is 30 m wide and 10 meters deep, thousands of ships would be needed, which neither the Islamic Republic nor any other government has. Another way to indirectly close a waterway is to mine it, which would require a precise plan, determining depths to place the mines which are unknown to others, with various kinds of mines, such as mechanical, sonar, magnetic and pressure mines, to be placed in water with special equipment in order to make it impossible.

It is practically impossible for the Islamic Republic, since, firstly, given the extreme depth and the rapid current of the Straits of Hormuz and the flow of the sea and the relatively narrowness of the width of the Straits of Hormuz compared to other parts of the Persian Gulf and the Sea of Oman, the national ships could survive in these waters and would be carried away by the fast current of water. (This is the case that at the water in the Straits of Hormuz, the late shah's time, the plan for installing an electricity turbine was being studied.) If, however, it is assumed that it is essentially possible to place mines in the Straits of Hormuz and suppose that the Islamic Republic would place a mine, firstly, it would have to have a sufficient number of mines for the Straits of Hormuz and at least one mine installed in the Straits to carry out this objective. In this regard, it is clear that the Islamic Republic does not have the capability of installing ships. Therefore, the Islamic Republic's capability of installing ships in the Straits of Hormuz does not point out the possibility of closing the Straits of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf.

The second step for closing a country is to force it to close in direct or active closure. But I, I believe, believe that part of the sea office, perhaps in its capacity of a strategy that is within its will and water will be closed and that any ship passing through will be attacked, confiscated or sunk. We must see whether we can find a way to follow this action, which is, in fact, the only option, an order that is not, and to that degree an out-come in it. We must see if it is possible of carrying it out. As soon as the closure of the Straits of Hormuz is announced by the Iranian regime, all the countries of the southern part of the Persian Gulf will take into account the would-be threatened danger and also the government of Iran, whose right of rule over its coastal waters is a sacred right. Has, in fact, been directly invaded, will protest this action. They would actually require the Persian Gulf entrance open for shipping and consider the closing of the Persian Gulf as an illegal and a violation of individual and international rights, and so on, and they will guarantee the security of the ships which pass from and to their ports. In addition, the governments whose battleships have been stationed for two years in the Arabian Sea within a short distance of the Straits of Hormuz will, as a precautionary measure, convert their battleships to full warships and will sail to the Persian Gulf. If the Islamic regime should remain silent in the face of such action (which seems unlikely), because, in fact, it has lost its prestige, it will be understood by the whole world that the claim of the ayatollah and his supporters is no more than a bluff and that as soon as they face a direct or indirect, they retreat. However, if they commit this directly and attack these ships, there will be a natural reaction in response to the attack, since they also justify their presence in accordance with the rights of the nations in free international waters. In this connection, neither the advanced Iranian navy nor the well-equipped Iranian air force has the ability to attack the contemporary ships in at sea, destroy or damage their targets, at any given point. Again, the results for the Islamic regime will be not only that the world will have been humiliated and humiliated and humiliated in the military, in its command and the Straits of Hormuz will not be closed. They will continue to sail and carry the United Nations and the world will have no funerals. There will be no threat, no danger, no danger, and contrary to the description of the Islamic regime, the third world war will not be started, because, first of all, the first and the last of the interests in the world are the interests of the world and in addition, even if the Islamic regime is not, for this reason, not only the government, but all the people of the world will oppose this action. Therefore, it is almost certain that the Islamic regime will not be able to close the Straits of Hormuz and will be forced to open them. This is a fact in accordance with international law. The Islamic regime will not be able to close the Straits of Hormuz.

Iranian people and to threaten the uninformed people of the world who are not aware of the actual power of Khomeyni in order to make the best use of them internally and externally. Let us note a few brief sentences from the cleric, Rafsanjani, in regards to this issue.

"Closing the Straits of Hormuz is easier than drinking water for us" (Friday prayers). "Closing the Straits of Hormuz for us is like a hinged door we can close" (Friday prayers). "The Straits of Hormuz can be closed with a mere thousand persons so that no ship may pass through" (Friday prayers). And the last threat of the one-armed president: "Even at the price of starting the third world war, we will not allow one drop of oil to be exported from the Persian Gulf."

It would be better if before boasting, they were to ask their stupid servants, whom they have installed as the commanders over the three forces and especially the installed idiot, Akhundollahi, who is the commander of the navy and who plays an important role at this stage, to study the issue carefully and to clarify the reality for them rather than leaving everything to such things as Komeyl prayers and help from the unknown. They should look at the Straits of Hormuz first hand and not from Jamaran, let alone try to close it. Someone saw a crow eating excrement and spreading it over its head and face with its beak. He asked, "What are you doing?" It answered in Arabic: "Breakfast in like the pillar of the body." He said, first you need to learn how to eat; you need not worry about speaking Arabic.



Key:

1. Iran
2. Bandar 'Abbas
3. Hormuz
4. Larak
5. Qeshm
6. Straits of Hormuz
7. Hengam
8. Tumb
9. Sea of Oman
10. Oman
11. Persian Gulf
12. Abu Musa
13. United Arab Emirates

10,000

CSO: 4640/32

PAKISTAN

U.S. TEAM PROBES TOWEL EXPORT SUBSIDY

REUTERS DAWN in English 18 Nov 81 p 6

[Article by Shabbaz Sheikh]

[Fact] A US team of accountants has started a probe in Pakistan to determine whether the Pakistan government was subsidizing export of towels to the United States, it is learnt.

A two-member US team arrived in Karachi on Tuesday and after a preliminary meeting with Chairman of the Export Promotion Bureau and leading towel exporters, left for Islamabad to meet the officials there.

The team is carrying out the investigations following a case filed by an American manufacturer of towels in a US trade court claiming that Pakistani imports were causing "material damage" to the US industry.

After initial hearing in Washington, the US court decided to impose an 12.5% anti-dumping duty on Pakistani towel exports but allowed the exporters to deposit the new duty in form of bonds which will be encashed when the final verdict is given and the duty is kept intact.

The court also ordered that the matter be investigated further and the current probe of US experts is part of that process. They will submit their report and then formal hearing of the case will begin in the International Trade Commission under US law.

The country will stay in Islamabad until Monday and will return to Karachi on Wednesday. The team will meet with individual towel exporters and companies and also officials to determine whether any subsidies were being given to them by the government.

A leading towel exporter told DAWN that case was very clear and in 1979 Pakistan had the exporters had proved before the same court in the United States that the export and reference facilities provided to Pakistani exporters were not "subsidies" in any way.

"We have to pay our taxes, duties and taxes on different levels and if the government subsidizes us for some other reason, it cannot be called a subsidy," another exporter remarked.

Sources said the case filed by the American towel maker will also be fought by the Pakistan Government on a plea that documents produced in the court had been tempered with.

This was detected by the Export Promotion Bureau when they counter-checked the documents sent by the court with their office copies. The prices quoted in the originals were reduced to prove that Pakistan was exporting at a throw-away price.

These tempered documents and the originals from the files were sent to the court and according to experts would also be shown to the US probe team.

Shop towels, on which the US court has imposed the countervailing duty, form a small part of the total towel exports and this has prompted Pakistani exporters to bargain with the US authorities by proposing that Pakistan will unilaterally accept restrictions on shop towels, provided no formal duty was imposed.

Exporters say if once a court formally imposed a duty on Pakistani exports, this would set a bad precedent and similar cases could be filed against other Pakistani exports as well.

CSO: 4600/144

INCREASE IN '82-83 COTTON PRODUCTION REPORTED

Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p 8

[Text]

The production of cotton lint has been estimated at 4,844,800 bales during 1982-83 as against 4,398,300 bales in the previous year (revised figures). It shows an increase of 10.1 per cent according to the final estimate of cotton crop for the year 1982-83 released by the Ministry of Food.

The area under cotton crop during the year was 2,262,800 hectares which is 2.2 per cent higher than the area estimated at 2,214,100 hectares in 1981-82 (revised figures).

In the Punjab the area under the crop is estimated at 1,612,100 hectares during 1982-83 as compared to 1,573,100 hectares in the previous year. It indicates an in-

crease of 2.5 per cent. The production stands at 3,255,200 bales and is 14.3 per cent higher than previous year estimate of 2,844,200 bales. The increase in cotton area is due to favourable weather conditions at the time of sowing and better climatic returns realised by the cotton growers during last year. Increase in production is attributed to favourable weather conditions prevailing at the time of sowing and growth of crop free from pest attack.

In Sindh the area under cotton crop is estimated at 1,024,700 hectares of 1.8 per cent. The production recorded an increase of 2.4 per cent. It stands at 1,584,700 bales as compared to 1,544,000 bales in the previous year.

ALL EFFORTS SAID UNDERWAY TO BOOST SIND'S FARM OUTPUT

Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p 4

[Text] Serious efforts are being made in Sind to bring additional areas under cultivation and increase per acre yield. A sum of Rs 160.565 million has been earmarked in the Annual Development Programme for the current fiscal year, Rs 132.375 million on the ongoing schemes and Rs 28.190 million on the new schemes, according to official figures available in Karachi.

As a result of persistent efforts made during the last few years, wheat production which stood at 1.680 million metric tons in 1978-79 rose to 2.045 million metric tons during 1982-83. Figures for other commodities are not less impressive.

The production of rice increased from 1.296 million metric tons in 1978-79 to 1.560 million metric tons; cotton from 0.802 million bales to 1.583 million bales and sugarcane from 4.374 million metric tons to 7.140 million metric tons.

The Government's decision to ensure a reasonable minimum price for primary commodities like rice, wheat, cotton and sugarcane, under an elaborate price support scheme, has also played an important part in increasing agricultural production. Growers, while sowing their crops, are confident that they will get a fair return for their efforts and, as such, work vigorously to achieve best results.

An intensive research programme has been launched to educate farmers in the use of modern agricultural inputs like high-yielding seeds, chemical fertilisers, pesticides etc. Increase in the pace of mechanisation is reflected in the number of tractors now in use in the province which was 15,800 during 1982-83 as against 8,600 in 1977-78.

The storage capacity for wheat and sugar in the province has been raised from 4,24,620 tons in 1978-79 to 539,620. The World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the National Logistics Cell are constructing more godowns which, on completion, will increase the total storage capacity in the province to 911,920 tonnes.

Concrete steps have also been taken by the Government to encourage livestock, poultry and dairy farming on modern lines in order to increase the supplies

of these commodities in the home market and also to help Pakistan enter the international market for the export of livestock and poultry and dairy products. Large tracts of land have been leased out to big private parties, including one from Dubai, to set up large cattle farms.

In this respect, a scheme, co-financed by the Asian Development Bank and estimated to cost Rs 152.849 million, has been formulated. Besides, smaller chunks of land in both sides of Superhighway in Dadu district have been given on lease to Pakistani parties for similar purposes. All these lands are located in rain-fed areas and would have to be developed with the help of sub-terranean water.

The Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Department is taking steps to build a network of veterinary hospitals.

A breeding programme is also in progress at livestock experimental stations at Karachi and Tando Mohammad Khan to evolve needs most suitable to conditions in Sind. A scheme for livestock production through artificial insemination has been operating at Karachi and other district headquarters.

Poultry industry around Karachi and Hyderabad has made tremendous progress. As a result of valuable work conducted by the Poultry Research Institute, Karachi, the mortality rate of 30 to 50 per cent in 1970 has been brought down to 1 to 10 per cent.--APP

END 16/08/71

PLAN FOR POWER GENERATION FROM FUEL WOOD

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 83 p 12

[Text] Lahore, Nov 13: The Government is considering a proposal to set up small power generation units based on local fuel-wood to meet the energy requirements of domestic and commercial sectors in towns and villages, PPI learnt here on Saturday.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources has undertaken a study of sowing fast growing trees on waste lands, according to the soil conditions of each area.

The wood will be used to produce charcoal which will run power generating units.

The study also includes utilisation of waste land for production of fodder, crops, livestock etc. and use of by-products of wood in the process of burning.

The wood gas may be used like the Sui gas, the sources said.

Small power generation units will also help expedite the rural electrification and run small industries in towns at relatively lesser costs.

Meanwhile, an official agency has completed a study about setting up power plants based on coal.

According to this study, the best quality coal having heating value of 1,000 British thermal units (BTU) per pound and costing Rs. 600 per ton will cost Paise 90 per kilowatt hour.

The coal discovered from Pakistan has a heating value ranging from 7000 BTU to 10,000 BTU per pound.

This cost of production applies to a small plant of 50 megawatt per hour power generation capacity.

The cheapest fuel for power production is water, followed by natural gas.-- PPI

CSO: 4609/143

BIG LABOR RALLY HELD IN NWFP TOWN

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Nov 83 p 12

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Nov 1: The Action Committee of the Federation of Trade Unions held a big labour rally at Charsadda Sugar Mills on Monday to voice its demands for the welfare of factory workers in NWFP and extend its support to the Movement for Restoration of Democracy in Pakistan.

The rally was addressed by a number of labour leaders, and was attended by representatives of defunct political parties, lawyers organisations and students organisations in the province.

The speakers demanded immediate government measures to improve the economic conditions of factory workers, restoration of democracy in Pakistan and paid tributes to the people of Sind and Baluchistan for rendering unprecedented sacrifices for revival of democracy and for security, safety and solidarity of Pakistan.

They also demanded release of political prisoners and restoration of 1973 Constitution.

The speakers called upon the people of NWFP to take active part in the struggle for democracy in Pakistan. They pledged full support to the struggle and warned against the consequences of repressive measures as well as those of delaying elections and transfer of power to people's representatives.

Similar rallies were also held in other factories in the province, says a Joint Action Committee press release. However, no untoward incident occurred in any of the factories where rallies were held.

GOVERNMENT URGED TO PLAN FOR EVENTUAL RETURN OF FOREIGN WORKERS

Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p. 7

[Editorial: "When the Manpower Tide Turns"]

[Text] WITH the demand for migrant workers in the oil-producing Gulf countries visibly shrinking, serious questions are beginning to surface in the context of our manpower export, home remittances and the socio-economic impact of the likely return of our emigrants. Typically, no official concern has yet been expressed about the situation. Nor has there been a thorough assessment of the possible changes in the Gulf market for our manpower. What we have, however, are various indications of a slowdown in the economic activity of the oil-producing Arab countries in the wake of the oil glut. Now a report prepared for the 15th session of the ILO's Asian Advisory Committee has underlined the complex and changing situation of the international migration of Asian workers as a result of reduction in oil income. The slowdown in the pace of development in the Gulf region, as the ILO report said, is beginning to affect the labour market. The cutbacks should fall more heavily on labour-intensive construction activities. Other developments, such as the intensified MAF co-

tion and completion of educational programmes for the local people, have also affected the job opportunities for our workers. The boom period of the recent past is certainly over, as everybody knew it would. But the quantitative and qualitative nature of this shift is not being expertly monitored and measured.

The first imperative, thus, is to study the situation carefully and thoroughly. So crucial have the manpower export and home remittances been for us that we simply cannot afford to be oblivious of the developing situation. Even if the reversal is not alarming, the very curtailment in further demand for our unskilled and semi-skilled labour is bound to have a grave impact. Every worker who goes abroad leaves more than one waiting in the queue, and the hope to get an overseas job has sustained many through trying moments. Loss of this hope could have sociological consequences. Unfortunately, we have been rather passive in our response to the historic phenomenon of the manpower export in the past ten years. We had no plans to regulate the export when the golden door to

the Gulf suddenly opened wide. No training programmes were launched either to feed the export market or to plug the gaps that were created at home. Workers going out received no orientation to be able to adjust to a new cultural environment and they were not fully protected by our embassies when they encountered problems abroad. Almost unnoticed at first, a criminal underground arose. Work visas were sold at high prices and there were deceptions of all kinds. Home remittances were left to flow into unproductive channels. If legal emigration flourished, all this still needs to be looked into, as the trickle continues. But more urgent is a plan to cope with the emerging situation. We should be prepared for the return of a substantial number of our workers from the Gulf area and should know how they would be integrated into the national economy. Of course, the returnees will not be the same persons who had left. They would be used to higher incomes and may even have acquired new skills and social attitudes. All aspects of the issue should be looked into if policy is to be formulated with a purpose.

MAHBUBUL HAQ HEADS ECONOMIC DELEGATION TO SOUTH KOREA

Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 6

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 17: Dr. Mahbubul Haq, the Federal Minister for Planning and Development, is due to leave for Seoul on Sunday as the head of a 5-member economic delegation on a week-long visit which is termed as the first ever high-level Government-to-Government contact between Pakistan and South Korea.

Islamabad and Seoul decided a few days ago to upgrade their diplomatic relations to the level of ambassadors and the Pakistan Government may very soon name its Ambassador to South Korea. Among the Non-aligned states, Pakistan and Egypt were the only two countries without ambassador-level diplomatic relations until few days ago.

It is stated that the Federal Minister for Planning and Development and his team will hold discussions with the South Korean delegation headed by its Deputy Prime Minister, who is also the chief of his country's Planning and Development. Their discussions are expected to lead to the possible establishment of organisational setup for future economic cooperation between the two countries. In this connection a joint Ministerial commission may also be set up.

The Pakistani team will also meet the representatives of Korean Chambers of Commerce and Industry and visit two top Korean institutes, The KDI (Korean Development Institute) and KAIST (Korean Institute of Science and Technology).

The team is also scheduled to visit the headquarters of the Korean Sameul Dong Movement and see two model rural areas.

During the visit the team will also study the Korean industrial tools sector, especially, the electronic and electrical industries, the Korean Steel Mills, the shipyard and the Heavy Industrial Complex.

The Pakistani team is also expected to discuss the possibility of expanding trade links between the two countries and establishing closer economic cooperations.

The possibility of attracting Korean private sector investment to Pakistan will be explored while closer technical cooperation especially in the field of semi-conductors, is also expected to be sought.

The Pakistani team, during its stay, will call on the Korean President.

CSO: 4600/144

JAPANESE INVESTORS' MISSION CONCLUDES TALKS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov.2: Kurihara Shabets, head of the Japanese investors mission currently on a week-long visit to Pakistan explaining Pakistani investment climate said, it had the huge market of 90 million people with abundant labour force and was situated near the big market of the Middle East.

Addressing a Press conference here, he said he was deeply impressed by the Pak aspiration for Japanese investment. The current Co-operation between Pakistan and Japan will gradually increase, he said.

Appreciating the stable economic growth of 6 per cent during the previous five year plan period, he hoped that with the stress on the role of private sector in the Sixth Five-year Plan the new target of 6.5 per cent of economic growth would be achieved.

Mr Kurihara said the climate had greatly improved, and in the course of implementation of the Sixth Plan the climate would further improve for investments.

Mr Kurihara said that Japan supported Pakistan's policy of indigenisation and added that with the help of deregulation programme and simplification of the procedure, it would attract foreign investments.

He said, the labour productivity of Pakistani public sector should be

improved which will be essential for Pak Japan joint ventures in public sectors.

He said he had obtained good knowledge of the Pakistani economy during the current visit and from discussions with government officials and the private sector.

The improved infrastructure facilities of water, power, roads and communications as mentioned in the Sixth Plan will accelerate industrialisation in addition to the overall uplift of the country, he added.

He said Japan was currently helping Pakistan in various fields, which will be increased along with the level of Japanese investment with the course of time.

Earlier the Japanese private Investors delegation today held a concluding round of talks with the Pakistani officials led by Industries Minister, Illahi Bux Somro here today.

The talks were mainly devoted to the answering of questions and queries of the members of the delegation by Pakistani regarding the infrastructural facilities, taxation incentives available to the foreign investors, labour productivity, laws regulating foreign investment and the safety of foreign investment.

PAKISTAN-OMAN RELATIONS EXAMINED

Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 21

[Article by Mohsin Ali]

[Text] THE foreign policy of the Sultanate of Oman is geared to ensure freindship with all nations on the basis of non-interference in each other's internal affairs, non-alignment with regard to superpower rivalry and an active role within the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) to achieve regional cohesion, economic and political stability and social progress.

A vivid reflection of this policy is found in the brotherly and cordial relations that exist between Oman and Pakistan, and the similarity of views on a number of regional and international issues.

Both the countries adhered to non-alignment, both agreed on the necessity of striving for the unity of all Islamic countries to face common challenges, both opposed any foreign intervention in the Gulf region and both supported the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.

Both countries have also agreed to finalise bilateral agreements on economic, trade, technical, banking, tourism, cultural and educational co-operation.

Additionally, both Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who visited Oman last January, and the Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr Yusuf Al-Ahawi, agreed on the establishment of a Pakistan-Oman

Joint Ministerial Commission to provide an institutional framework to spur the joint endeavour for expansion of their co-operation.

On a major issue of grave concern to the region, namely the Soviet incursion into Afghanistan, Oman has taken a clear-cut stand.

At the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and in the Organisation of Islamic Conference, Oman has repeatedly voiced anxiety at the "continued occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet troops" and has called for "their immediate withdrawal".

In fact, during the Pakistan Foreign Minister's visit to Muscat, Oman agreed with Pakistan in calling for a "comprehensive political settlement of the problem based on the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops and the voluntary return of the Afghan refugees to their homes in safety and honour".

Stressing the identity of views of the two countries on a number of issues, a joint press release at the end of that visit, noted their common stand.

A large number of Pakistanis, it may be added, are employed by the Omani armed forces, the Police, administration and by various development projects. They are helping in the transformation of economy of Oman and are imparting richness to the life of the Omani people.

On the international plane the strategic location of Oman has saddled her with problems and re-

sponsibilities out of proportion to her size and resources.

Oman, for instance, is pledged to keep the Strait of Hormuz through which transit, an oil tanker every 15 minutes, safe and free from passage of international shipping.

This has entailed strengthening her fleet of fast patrol craft and helicopters to mount a round-the-clock watch over this vital waterway.

Determined to execute this expanded role, Oman has been beefing up its defences, and seeking security and assistance from her Arab neighbours and her friends around the world.

Oman for example views the security of the Gulf area as a regional responsibility. The Sultanate also regards joint economic development and political cohesion among Gulf states as essential regional goals.

Mirroring this awareness and highlighting the foreign policy of Oman was a speech by Sultan Qaboos bin Said at Muscat last year on the occasion of Oman's twelfth national day anniversary.

The Sultan asked the Arab countries to remain on guard against those "who seek to harm the vital interests of our people with empty slogans and false promises".

Asserting that his country shared with other Gulf states the keenness to develop "our existing co-operation in all spheres", he renewed his call for adopting a "rational policy in the Arab world".

Propelled by fast-moving events in and around the Gulf, Oman's partners in the GCC, though initially reluctant, have now come round to her view that the primary emphasis of the GCC should be on security.

The GCC, which "aims at achieving full coordination and integration in all fields, besides consolidating of relations among its member states", has since evolved a constitution, several economic co-operation, customs union and tariff agreements and a comprehensive Security agreement.

Pinpointing Oman's vital stake in the security of the Gulf and in the freedom of navigation through the Strait of Hormuz has been her anxiety over the three-year old Iran Iraq war and the possibility of its escalation to suck in the superpowers.

At every international forum, the Government of Oman has earnestly appealed to both Iran and Iraq to end the war, in the interest of the people and the region.

Faithful to the Arab objective of an Israeli withdrawal from all

captured Arab territories, Oman has welcomed the Resonant Peace for the Middle East as containing "positive elements" as well as the PLO Plan as "constructive" towards a permanent and honest settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Oman, however, has insisted that durable peace cannot be ensured in the area without the exercise by the Palestinian people of their right to self-determination.

SHAHI, OTHERS DISCUSS AFGHAN ISSUE

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 3

[Article by Sikander Hayat]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov. 2: Former Foreign Minister Agha Shahi has said that it was more clear today than ever before that efforts to find political solution of Afghanistan issue must be insulated from the Super-Power rivalry. Pakistan and Iran must pursue a solution based on the principle of equitable settlement leading to withdrawal of Soviet troops, return of refugees and leaving the Afghan people to decide whatever kind of government they wanted to live under, he added.

Speaking at a panel discussion on "Cooperation as Sovereign Equals is Key to South Asian States' Security and Progress" at the local Pakistan National Centre Monday evening he strongly emphasised that pursuit of security through alliances was fraught with hazards, and "in our own experience we know" that Pakistan was not in a position of a West European state reposing its hopes in security pacts.

Floundering the concept of sovereign equality he said that sovereignty is inseparable from equality, for all states are equal in their international rights. "If cooperation among the countries of South Asia is to lead to security and progress it must be based on an equitable apportionment of costs and benefits."

Mr. Shahi was of the view that the key to confidence-building, which is vital for regional cooperation, lay with India, the largest partner. Its mass weight and military power are overwhelming, he said. With 77 per cent of popula-

tion, 72 per cent of area, 78 per cent of the GNP of the region, India has 1.1 million armed forces compared with the combined strength of 6,87,000 of others, defence expenditure of 6 billion dollars as compared to 2.5 billion of others and also qualitative technological superiority.

The military preponderance, therefore, placed on India the prime responsibility of instilling a sense of security among other regional countries, he said. He pointed out that the continuous enhanced military capability of India "should provide India temptation for enunciation of a sort of Monroe Doctrine."

Fracing India's search for a predominant role, as inheritor of the British imperialism, Mr. Shahi said that emergence of Pakistan was a blow to those hopes. He said that during 50's and 60's India had been maintaining that Pakistan could not be equated with India. In fact India did succeed in signing a number of unequal treaties with regional partners except Pakistan, he explained.

Under the treaty of 1950 it was required of Nepal to consult India in matters of defence and external affairs. Bhutan was to be "aided" and Bangladesh, in its friendship treaty of 1972, is "suspected to derogate from sovereignty", Shahi added.

Former Foreign Minister said the Indian Press has indicated that through its Friendship Treaty offered to Pakistan New Delhi proposed to constitute limitations on Pakistan's sovereignty. "It is regrettable that India has taken contradictory positions on the principle of non-interference."

Mr. Shahi pointed out the recently held Sindhi conference in New Delhi where a Congress (I)

MP went to the extent of declaring that "Time is ripe for this part of Pakistan (Sindh) to join India". But against its recurrent communal tensions in Assam or East Punjab, India would not wish any of its neighbouring to comment. India practised double standards, Mr. Shahi said.

The former foreign minister also criticised the measures Pakistan took to create better climate in the region. These were offer of mutual and balanced reduction of armed forces, at the same time making clear that Pakistan would not ask for parity, and proposal to establish a nuclear-weapons free zone. But India did not reciprocate.

Mr. Shahi said that different perceptions of major international events like Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea and Russian aggression in Afghanistan also proved impediment to better climate in the region, further exacerbated by the superpowers' strategies. Both the superpowers tend to subordinate the sovereignty of other people to their global strategies for relative advantages.

Mr. Azha Shahi said if the Muslim world is to break out of its vicious circle of impotency it is imperative to get together on the basis of non-alignment instead of taking to one side or the other. Pakistan, he said, is the core problem of the Middle East and without its solution there would be no peace in the region.

Addressing next, Aslam Khattak, a former Ambassador and presently minister for the Majlis Shura, made an optimistic note basing his argument on his personal experience and insights. Confining himself to Pakistan's relations with India, which he said are the "immediate problems", he said that the future of both the countries was directly linked to these relations.

Mr. Khattak said there was no such thing as sovereign equality in spite of what the Super Powers did when they acted their interests in violation of the international law and principle. "In our foreign policy, we must know what is realistic and what is achievable", and that must be the measure to judge relations with India.

Addressing, quoting from the book "The Muslim Confusion", he tried to give the last 1,000 years of Muslim and Hindu past as a history of one country. The Hindu came and they became Indians, the 1857 war of independence, he said, was not wanted by the Muslim emperor but by the British.

He said when Sultan Tipu was killed and the British Commander General greeted the Court of Poonah which then symbolised the top Hindu religious authority, the court reacted unfavourably by saying that the sons of Tipu were the real inheritors of Muslim power in Mysoor. This led the British to evolve the divide-and-rule political policy for application in India.

He said when he was in England, much before the creation of Pakistan, his friends were Hindus, Sikhs and Punjabis, and not the people from Iran, Iraq or the Middle East. "Thousand years of history have united us all into one country. Now that we are two different countries the older generation was friends on both sides of the border could sit and think of overcoming the stupidity of slaughter and murder". He prayed that God blessed the leadership on both sides with wisdom, so that they do not reap cheap popularity by kicking up clouds of hatred.

He said the Russians have accepted the Indian claim of inheriting the British power extending from the Oxus to Burma. The Russians are therefore in Afghanistan as long as Prime Minister Indira wanted them to be there, he explained. "Do you think the Russians would ever tolerate a fundamental state in Iran, a theocratic state in Pakistan and a theocratic state in Afghanistan, with its soft belly of Muslim populations where fears might be latent but not dead."

Mr. Khattak underlined the importance of diplomatic efforts for removing distrust between Pakistan and India by sending out what he said good ambassadors. "Let our diplomatic corps not be a refuge for unwanted politicians or unwanted generals."

Former ambassador to USSR and India, Sajjad Haider, was of the view that the focal point of cooperation (or lack of cooperation) in South Asia was Afghanistan. "Each time you see it in right perspective, insulating it from the Super-Power diplomacy, only then we hope to have some cooperation", he emphasised.

He said in the wake of the fall of Shah of Iran and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan the situation in the region has qualitatively changed, with new, real problems which defy simplistic approach. Pakistan's relations with India since 1979 have been overshadowed by Afghanistan.

In our efforts to offer peace to India, our Kashmir priority has come down the ladder. Mr. Sajjad Haider said adding in July 1979, in Gama, Pakistan put up its last 15

seek solution of Kashmir by force, and ever since we have accepted an unequal position. The offer of military balance was a case in point, he said adding "nobody can gang up against India. India is using regional cooperation to perpetuate its hegemony and we are already sold out on that."

Mr. Haider warned that love for peace was good and so was desire for co-existence but in relations with India realpolitik was involved. "If you are weak the big neighbour feels it has the right to intervene in your affairs."

He strongly advocated non-interference in Afghanistan by insulating it. "Who are we to say that let Afghans choose their own government". Alluding to Shahi's comment of shunning the American proposal of endorsing its strategic consensus, he said "we should have said no to something else also". "It is not enough to say that the Russia should leave Afghanistan we should also discourage others also who are interfering in that country."

Turning to home front Mr. Haider said we provided an opportunity to India to interfere, as we did in 1972.

Replying to a question Aslam Khattak said he was always guided by his conscience, not by the whip of any political party. In facing the present conditions which he said were dictatorship he adopted a positive approach and not the negative approach of Pacha Khan or Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan. He said he was able to convey to President

Zia what nobody has been able to do under any other circumstances, and that's how "I achieved my objective", he added. "Although we (the Federal Council members) have earned the hatred of some people but we follow our conscience. The intelligence never conveyed truth to the top position, he said and declared "if any one of us is not doing that he was traitor to the country."

Replying to a question Sajjad Haider said in four years time we recognised the Bangladesh which was the creation of aggression, but we have not recognised Kabul. "Let us prepare to face reality of time", he said. "I do not say that we should go to Indira with folded hands, but it is the first time that there are voices in India that Pakistan may not be wrong."

A member from the audience observed that during Mr. Bhutto's visit to Moscow in 1971 Prime Minister Kosygin had said that Russia would do exactly the same in West Pakistan what he did in East Pakistan if the people asked for help. To that Mr. Shahi replied that he was then in China.

Another member of the audience observed that Bhashani, the man who conceived Bangladesh, was a Chinese protege and the American ambassador MacKaghy was active preparing schemes for B.D. independence, but Russians stole the show.

At that juncture Sajjad Haider explained how the Swiss ambassador in New Delhi asked him to leave immediately because a "big push" was planned to be launched by India on Dec. 13, 1971. But the Russian stopped India because President Richard Nixon had warned Mr. Brezhnev against this adventure who in turn asked his man on the spot, Kuznetsov, to prevent Indians to freeze the attack.

INTERNAL, EXTERNAL THREATS TO NATION ASSAILED; INDIA'S ROLE EXAMINED

Lahore (The Pakistan Times) in Edition 24 (Oct 21, pp 6, 7)

[Article by Z. A. Suleri: "The Battle Continues"]

[1947] The views expressed by the writer in this column are not necessarily those of The Pakistan Times

Pakistan is fighting the battle of its existence on two fronts. While externally, Pakistan faces India's repudiation of its genesis of Muslim nationhood, internally, it is pitted against elements which undermine the country's strength by attributing to its emergence a wrong genesis.

INDIA'S REJECTION OF Pakistan as a sovereign state is the central theme of the current Indian propaganda. This is the basis of the Indian attack on Pakistan's existence.

The Indian propaganda is based on the fact that Pakistan was created as a result of the Partition of India. It is a creation of the British and the Indian National Congress. It is a creation of the Indian National Congress and the British. It is a creation of the Indian National Congress and the British.

Indian thinking

Indian thinking is based on the fact that Pakistan was created as a result of the Partition of India. It is a creation of the British and the Indian National Congress. It is a creation of the Indian National Congress and the British. It is a creation of the Indian National Congress and the British.

our country even while she testing and proclaiming recognition of its status as a sovereign independent state. India's paradoxical behaviour seems to stem from its fatal notion of the subcontinent's indivisibility and its obvious unwillingness to be definitively segregated into separate areas where Pakistan may be the way—the Pakistan movement could not be regarded as the loss of British retreat—but it was possible to view it as a step towards the independence of the whole of India. The whole idea of the Pakistan movement was to create a new state in the Indian subcontinent.

In the early days of the movement, the Indian National Congress was the main force behind the movement. It was the Indian National Congress which was the main force behind the movement. It was the Indian National Congress which was the main force behind the movement.

age of revolt against the central authority and it is not quiet in the occupied Kashmir. How is it then that a strife-ridden India could yet afford to strike the posture of a regional superpower looking over its border neighbours?

The reason for India's apparent stability lies not in the strength of its political and social structure. They are not the main reason for the stability. The main reason for the stability is the fact that India is a very much dependent on the services of the superpowers. It is a very much dependent on the services of the superpowers.

India's foreign policy is based on the fact that it is a very much dependent on the services of the superpowers. It is a very much dependent on the services of the superpowers. It is a very much dependent on the services of the superpowers.

Client polity

[illegible][illegible]

New orientation

[illegible]

persons to the fact that they
 desire a people. That desire
 became a reality because
 coincided with the creation of
 Pakistan. While the Symposium
 at Madras heard a speaker no
 longer associated. Aspects to
 discussion of a document related
 to that was discussed after the
 lunch period. The atmosphere
 striking in the cultural change of
 the political process of the
 Symposium. Under the new
 constitution, the provinces were
 transferred to Muslim control.
 The point is made crystal
 clear in the Quid's diary
 entry dated 10/11/1947. When
 Quid raised the question: If
 the regions holding Muslim
 majorities have to be separated
 according to the Lahore Re-
 solution, the grade, step or
 separation should be spiritual.
 It should be placed before and approved
 by the people in the area. The
 Quid made the point: "CAN
 YOU NOT APPRECIATE OUR
 POINT OF VIEW THAT WE
 CLAIM THE RIGHT OF SELF
 DETERMINATION AS A NA-
 TION AND NOT AS A TER-
 RITORIAL UNIT AND
 THAT WE ARE ENTITLED
 TO EXERCISE OUR IN-
 HERENT RIGHT AS A MIS-
 LAMINATION WHICH IS OUR
 BIRTHRIGHT."

Economic viability

[illegible]

But after separation, both have developed their own independent patterns. One of the loudest arguments against Pakistan was economic—it would not become economically. And the one point that the Qaid never touched and the rest of the E. never answered was concerning the future Pakistan's economy. When told it would be near, he said: "Never mind, we will stew in our own juices. Although we have benefited economically, imperialism's economics was not at the heart of the freedom struggle. Its foremost motive was to save the national soul."

National will

The economic argument relevant as it may be, is secondary. It did not keep East Pakistan with West Pakistan. What needs to be kept alive and coherent therefore is Muslim nationhood which would allow Pakistan's Provincialism to be subdivided, economic structure can change, an underdeveloped part can become developed. There is nothing immutable about the present shape of economy. However, when fate is changed, the heavens will fall if the nationhood is supplanted by provincialism, then there is clear danger of disintegration. It is the provincial stake with which India wants to keep Pakistan. That it was after forming Bangla nationalism, it is protecting Sindh nationalism. India's physical threat is bad enough, don't let it aggravate the situation by putting provincialism in its hands. What we need to do is all in the hands of the people. If national will is not fully damped,

CRITICISM OF INDIA FOR INTERFERENCE IN PAKISTAN'S AFFAIRS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] ISLAMABAD, Oct. 31: Co-operation among South Asian countries as sovereign equals is imperative for the security and progress of the region was the consensus of a panel discussion here today.

The discussion on the subject: 'Co-operation as Sovereign equals is key to South Asian States' Security and Progress' was arranged by the Pakistan National Centre, Islamabad.

The participants included Agha Shahi, a former Foreign Minister, Aslam Khan Khattak, a member of Majlis-e-Shoora and Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Sajad Hyder, a former Ambassador to the Soviet Union and India, Dr. Rasool Baksh Raza, a Professor of International Relations, and Altaf Hasan Qureshi, a journalist.

Initiating the discussion, Mr. Shahi said India was the biggest country in the region and, therefore, has to play a significant role. "It is the prime responsibility of India to instil a sense of security among the other South Asian countries", he said.

Mr. Shahi pointed out that India has 77 per cent share of the regional population, 72 per cent of the area and 78 per cent of the GNP which all gives it a predominant status in the region.

besides, he said, the figures of Indian Army, tanks and combat aircraft are many times bigger than the combined military strength of the six other South Asian countries Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and Maldives.

Stating that interference has become the order of the day, the former Foreign Minister said, the South Asian countries could promote friendship and accelerate co-operation among themselves in light of the recent declaration of South Asian Conference in New Delhi which enunciated the principle of sovereign equality as the base for inter-state cooperation.

Mr. Shahi said in pursuit of its desire to promote friendship and co-operation with its neighbours, Pakistan had offered India a no-war pact. But, he regretted that the pact has not been concluded yet.

He said Pakistan had proposed New Delhi an agreement for mutual reduction in arms which also could not be materialised. However, he said, it was made clear that Pakistan would not seek parity in military strength with its big neighbour.

The former Foreign Minister said India also offered Pakistan a friendship treaty, but had Pakistan accepted the terms and conditions mentioned in the treaty its sovereign status would have been hurt.

Tracing the causes of impediments in Indo-Pakistan relations,

Mr. Shahi said India had the desire to dominate the region since the beginning. This desire eroded because of the creation of Pakistan which India thought would be a hurdle in its expansionist designs. Consequently relations between the two countries became tense since the very beginning.

The Indian leaders, Mr. Shahi said still have those ambitions which push them to interfere in internal affairs of neighbouring countries. In this regard, he mentioned the recently held World Sindhi Conference in New Delhi.

Mr. Shahi said India had two standards: One for itself and the second for other countries which "negate the principle of sovereign equality".

The former Foreign Minister said India's stand on some international issues like the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was also an obstacle in improving the political climate in the region.

He said the Afghanistan problem and should be solved Politically. "This problem should be kept out of the Super-powers tussle", he said.

Urging Muslim countries to get together instead of tilting toward one or another Super-Power, Mr. Shahi said Pakistanis should strive to make their country strong so that it could play a vital role in the region and the Muslim world.

INDIAN PRESS CRITICISM OF PRO-PAKISTAN INDIAN LEADER REPORTED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Nov 83 p 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 31. Indian politician, Dr. Subramaniam Swamy has come under fire in the Indian Press for disagreeing with New Delhi's policy of interference in Pakistan's internal affairs, says a message received here today.

Dr. Swamy, who represents the moderates in Indian politics, recently visited Pakistan where he courageously exposed and criticised the negativism of Mrs. Gandhi's policies towards Pakistan.

Some of the leading Indian papers appear to have been so pained by this that they labelled him as an "eager and efficient mouth-piece" of Pakistan and even brought into question his integrity as a politician.

National Herald' editorially

called him a 'juvenile broker' who 'sees, hears and speaks what is just not correct'. The paper even made unbecoming attacks on Dr Swamy's person and described him as 'a comic extra in the serious business of world politics'.

'Patriot' of Delhi also did not like Dr. Swamy's speaking out the truth about Pakistan and sarcastically dismissed his observations at a Press conference in Bombay as 'a paraphrasing of what General Zia of Pakistan had told him'.

Other papers have also showed their anger over Dr Swamy's moderate views, exploding the myth of their objectivity and shattering their claim of being the champion of freedom of expression.

ZIA SAYS NO SETBACK TO INDIA-PAKISTAN TIES

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 pp 1, 8

[Text] NEW DELHI, Nov. 2--President Ziaul Haq has told an Indian journalist that Pakistan will not allow any temporary setback in Indo-Pakistan ties owing to current difficulties caused by Indian interference in its internal affairs to come in the way of the on-going process of normalisation of relations between the two countries.

The President's interview with Editor of leading English daily 'Indian Express' B. G. Verghese, who was lately in Pakistan was published as a lead story in today's issue of the paper with the headline: "Indo-Pak ties not to be violated, says Zia, over the hump' to orderly internal transition.

President Ziaul Haq said it could be that Mrs. Indira Gandhi might have had electoral or political compulsion for lending support to MRD in Pakistan, in view of her own difficulties at home, he added.

According to the report the President hoped that Indo-Pakistan talks would be resumed shortly and said dates were in the process of being settled for a meeting of the various sub-committees of the Joint Commission, possibly in November or December. The two foreign ministers or foreign secretaries would also be meeting before long "to marry the two drafts exchanged on a 'no-war pact' and a friendship treaty respectively". Pakistan, he said, had moved unilaterally to give an impetus to movement (of people) and trade and a response was awaited. The ball is in India's court. When the Indian editor told the President that India was similarly awaiting a Pakistani response to its initiatives the President said there might be a communication gap, understanding and goodwill was required.

Replying to a question the President emphatically asserted that Pakistan would do nothing that might affect its position as an independent an non-aligned nation.

President Ziaul Haq denied as totally untrue and propagandist the notion that Pakistan was in any way committed to or would in future agree to any American Strategic consensus in South West Asia or the Gulf. Pakistan had not been asked for bases at Quetta, Islamabad or Peshawar on the Makran coast in Baluchistan or anywhere else, or for facilities as a staging post or any U.S. sponsored Rapid Deployment Force in the region.

On Afghanistan, the President expected, the report said, that indirect talks would continue. The U.N. mediator Diego Cordovez, had been overly optimistic earlier, but was now seized of the realities, as many as 117 members of the United Nations, the Islamic Conference and Non-Aligned Movement had all said that a solution must be found in the withdrawal of all Soviet troops, the return home of the Afghan refugees (numbering three million in Pakistan) and the restoration of Afghanistan's independence and autonomy. Any solution on these lines would be acceptable. The Soviet President himself had stated that the Soviet Union intended to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan.

In an indirect reference to Babrak Karmel, the report said, President Ziaul Haq stated no man could be brought into a country from outside in a tank and installed. If this principle were accepted it would be difficult for small countries to exist. Pakistan could not be found wanting. It expected positive support from India. Finlandisation might be a possible solution, but the Afghans did not seem to favour this.

The 'Indian Express' said President responded to a number of questions on the internal political situation in Pakistan and current discussion on his August 17 political proposals. It said that he indicated the possibility of holding general elections to the national assembly and provincial assemblies ahead of his previously announced deadline of March 1985 and said that he had an open mind on whether or not to permit political parties to contest the polls. He favoured a non-party elections as a one time measure to facilitate a smooth transition from a six-year military regime to civilian rule.

The report said political parties had been defunct since at least 1973, though latterly some of them especially the PPP, had launched an agitation and sought to win a franchise against the government in the name of restoring democracy.

The President was quoted as saying that if a poll was held immediately with party participation, the law-abiding parties would be at a disadvantage as they needed time to reactivate themselves. Moreover the country might not be able to take the strain of the keen polarisation and confrontation that might ensue, since elected the members could regroup in their old parties or form new parties. There had to be some political apparatus. No new system was visualised, he added.

The West-minister-pattern had some inherent disadvantages because of pressures for territoriality, President Zia remarked. If a party contest was straightaway allowed to take toll the state of history, bargains and factions would undermine principles and discipline. The six-year effort he had made to rejuvenate Pakistan. Continuity would be lost and good work scuttled. It was therefore, prudent to give the new era a good start. A non-party poll would more likely throw up an experienced leadership that could take decisions on merit.

However, President Zia asserted that no final decision had been taken. If parties were to be allowed to contest they would include the PPP, this party and certain others that did not register themselves with the election commission earlier could have participated. It is now about the political parties programme

1970. Registration binds a party to publish a manifesto, outline a programme in line with Islam, abide by the principles of Pakistan, and submit accounts to the Election Commission.

He said in any event elections were a means to an end and not the end in themselves.

Replying to a question the President said there was no "secessionist movement to scare us" in Sind although L. N. Sved had been talking in this strain for the past forty years. The boggy of separatism was a propaganda by interested parties and certain powers with ulterior motives and the motives could be to create instability in Pakistan and to divert its attention from Afghanistan.

MSO: 440/112

INDIAN PROTESTS OVER GILGIT SAID UNWARRANTED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 14 Nov 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Unwarranted Protest"]

[Text] India's expression of displeasure and anger over the invitation to heads of foreign diplomatic missions stationed in Islamabad to a dinner hosted by President Zia-ul-Haq at Gilgit on November 8 has been seriously taken note of by the members of the Majlis-i-Shoora. Speaking on behalf of the Foreign Ministry on two identical motions sought to be moved by two members of the Majlis-i-Shoora, the Federal Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, rejected India's resentment over the issue saying that India had no locus standi with regard to the Northern Areas and that the statements by the Indian Government about the territory were unwarranted and without legal basis. He said the statement of the official spokesman of the Indian Government on November 10 reportedly describing as provocative the decision of the President of Pakistan to host a dinner for the heads of foreign mission in Pakistan at Gilgit on November 8 caused no surprise to the Government of Pakistan. In the past also, he added, the Government of India had protested against the construction of the Karakoram Highway and expressed its unhappiness over the inclusion of observers from the Northern Areas in the Federal Council. Elaborating his point, the Minister underlined the reaction of Pakistan saying that the Government on each occasion had rejected the protest and reiterated that ever since 1947, the Northern Areas had been administered by the Pakistan Government.

During the last few weeks India's vilification of Pakistan has been intensified. In her speech before the members of the Haryana Congress the other day, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi made the wildest possible allegation against Pakistan. She claimed that the region was pregnant with war portents. She has already accused Pakistan of assisting the Sikh extremists in their current struggle. All this furore by the Indian leaders is highly regrettable. The posture adopted by the Indian Prime Minister against Pakistan will only increase tension between the two countries. On the one hand, India keeps on rousing the sentiments of its people against this country, while on the other, it has once again started claiming Gilgit and other adjoining Northern Areas as the integral part of so-called Kashmir. How unfortunate it is that the Indian Prime Minister and other leaders have forgotten the Simla Accord which was signed in 1972. While signing the accord, Mrs Gandhi remained fastid-

as a disputed territory. Her father, the late Maharaja Bhaer, had also recognised its disputed status. It is still a disputed territory in view of several resolutions of the United Nations are concerned. The presence of the UN observers on both sides of the cease-fire line makes it absolutely clear that the territory still remains disputed.

Viewed against this background, it sounds strange when India continues to express indignation over entertaining of foreign diplomats by the President of Pakistan at Dillai. It is quite evident from the utterances of Mrs. Gandhi and other Indian leaders that they are not sincere when they talk of normalisation of relations with Pakistan. Pakistan, on its part, is the last two years initiated the process of Indo-Pakistan normalisation in right earnest and all sincerity in order to allay any Indian fears that Pakistan posed a threat to it. It was Pakistan which proposed a no-war pact to India when the latter considered the purchase of a limited number of modern arms from the United States to replace its obsolete weapons. Though in its considered opinion such a pact took full care of India's fears, Pakistan did not mind when India came out with a counterproposal of a treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation. Pakistan even did not object to the idea of merging the two animals into one on the basis of sovereign equality and respect for each other's territorial integrity. Pakistan's gesture of goodwill could also be gauged from the fact that it accepted Mrs. Gandhi's proposal to have a joint commission to step up the pace of normalisation. This commission came into being in Pakistan when the Foreign Ministers of the two countries signed it in Islamabad.

In spite of the friendly and warmth shown by Pakistan to normalise its relations with India for the progress and welfare of the peoples of the two countries, India's recent action has not proved much encouraging. One can appreciate what is such a small country in resources, size and manpower that a threat to the Indian Prime Minister, who only the other day had chosen to act as a mediator of the warring party that there was a danger to her country's existence from across the border and that some one was looking for an excuse to attack India. Is not the fair Pakistan and un/maghabile?

The Pakistani Minister would do well to keep her eyes open from the two sides. What is also incumbent on the part of other Indian leaders is that they must refrain their words on the issue of Kashmir. The Commission in 1947-48 was set up by the UN and its people will be allowed to decide the future—whether they want to join Pakistan or India. The recommendations of the Indian leaders have yet to be implemented. The people of the state of Jammu and Kashmir will only witness the atmosphere of normalisation between the two countries. The UN is the only one who can do this.

REPETITION OF EARLIER MASS MOVEMENTS, SUBSEQUENT CHAOS FEARED

Karachi JANG in Urdu 14 Oct 83 pp 3,26

/Article by Brig Gen (Rtd) Abdul Rahman Siddiqi: "Military Analysis; Crisis Upon Crisis"/

/Excerpts/ It is a strange tragedy of our national history that whenever political conditions get out of control, the army is invited to intervene, even though political situations can only be resolved through political means and mutual understanding. Once the army is involved, even briefly, it is difficult to determine how long and to what extent the military intervention will continue. How is it possible to restore democracy through the military? No professional soldier can be expected to perform this task in an excellent manner and with the desired success, because he is neither trained for such tasks nor does he possess the requisite skill. Therefore, precisely according to their professional training and thinking (whereby it is essential to have clear a perception of an enemy or danger), they regard politicians as their enemies and the political process and its revival as a challenge. A little intervention creates complications and takes the form of a jihad against the entire political system. Whether this jihad acquires the form of an evaluation or ideology, or merely finds means of purifying the administration over a period of time, it definitely emerges as a hostile power against the political process and its leaders. Then, as a result of this, a battle commences between the soldier and the citizen, which can create numerous complications and entanglements; and they will always continue to exist.

Furthermore, if the army is successful in reviving the democratic process, after gaining power it does not need to return authority to those who ended the democratic process or weakened it to make the military intervention inevitable. The work of the army is not only to first deal with the political crisis and then to smoothe conditions for the elections, but, after the elections, to embrace an accountable process whereby their own future as an institution, a group or a class and social force is at stake. Mr Bhutto, immediately after gaining power and then gradually in the form of /the so-called/ Attock trials /of certain military officers/, tried to do something similar, though it

proved to be a futile endeavor. Nevertheless, its impact is still alive. Furthermore, the confusion caused by the military intervention and, after that, the disgrace and notoriety the politicians have to face, puts a poor face on their credibility, and so they lose their prestige over the nation.

On one occasion, during an informal gathering, I had a conversation with Air Marshal Asghar Khan on the topic of the army and the elections. I asked him: After reforming conditions in the country, why were they compelled, after elections, to hand over power to the politicians? On the contrary, why did not the army itself strengthen the foundations of its authority and hold on to it? The only reply Asghar Khan Sahib gave me was that that will never happen, because, if they were successful in ousting and replacing a strong leader like Ayub Khan, compared to him the current rulers were nothing. Later, the direction in which circumstances moved proved that with regard to political matters, Asghar Khan himself was also the victim of the similar simple-mindedness that exists among most other professional soldiers. It is a fact that once power has been gained, it becomes extremely difficult not only for the army but any individual or party to surrender it voluntarily.

After all, on 5 July 1977, the army did gain control under the leadership of Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq and martial law was enforced through the country. As before, however, it did not abolish the constitution; instead, it only suspended it. Operation 'Fair Play' began. It was to last only 90 days. After that, the army, after holding elections, had to hand over power to the representatives, elected by the people. But this did not happen, and now, after 6½ years, the date for elections is still 1 to 1½ years away.

During this period, both lenient and strict martial law was and still is imposed. Positive and appropriate measures were also taken. We are all aware of their details, and there is no need to repeat them here. However, the point to be examined is whether the era of commotion and civil war, for which martial law was imposed, has come to an end and whether those conditions have changed or not. Although at present the tumult, violence and commotion of the PNA /Pakistan National Alliance/ movement apparently cannot be seen anywhere, have we succeeded in completely sealing this poisonous and fiery eye from which the lava of agitation erupted?

Can we say it with full satisfaction that whatever happened in the past is over? Now such things will never happen, and our turbulent history will not repeat itself once again.

The thing to ponder is, after the 1971 bloodshed and the greatest political crisis of 1977, why does it seem that once again we are being driven toward a similar destination? Besides, after the revolution in Iran and the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, new dangers have emerged in our neighboring regions, and the old ones still exist.

9779

CSO: 4636/28

INTERNAL FAULTS BLAMED FOR WORSENING COUNTRY'S PROBLEMS

Karachi JANG in Urdu 15 Oct 83 p 3

[Article by Z A Suleri: "Problems and Thoughts"]

[Excerpt] We accuse India of trying to destroy Pakistan, but then, there was never any doubt or suspicion about its intentions. It has never accepted the reality of a Muslim nation. In other words, it even acted militarily to separate East Pakistan, and in the future, too, it will not refrain from intervening. The truth is that India cannot bear the very existence of Pakistan. It considers itself a superpower and feels that if it is not equal to America and the Soviet Union, at least, it is in no way less than China. It wishes to present itself as the greatest power of South Asia. To accomplish these aims, it is essential for it to be fully in control of the subcontinent. But Pakistan seems to be blocking this path of superiority, since it has its own unique culture and its own status. It is bound together with the Muslim world, and is the bearer of a different objective. Its extraordinary position raises the fear that it might become the source of provoking the other smaller countries of the region. During the riots in Sri Lanka, there was propaganda in India that Pakistan was about to give military aid to it. Therefore, from some ideological viewpoints and on the basis of some apparent factors, India perceives Pakistan as a danger to its desire for hegemony. That is why it is bent on enmity and never fails on any occasion to demonstrate its enmity toward Pakistan. Behind the dust of its demonstrations, it stands ready to take practical steps as well.

Nevertheless, the thing that gives real strength to India is our own attitude and character. We have not run the country along proper lines. We have not strengthened the foundations of the Muslim nationality and given power to politics for the benefit of the country. If, right from the beginning, our national life had been disciplined according to the constitution, the disturbance of regionalism would not have existed. If we had not appointed treacherous people as leaders, the country would not have been divided. We do agree that India does not believe in the two-nation theory, but did we ever relate ourselves to the Muslim nationality? At first, there was the question of Bengali and non-Bengali, and now we are involved in the dissension of the Sindhis and the Punjabis. We have brought tyrannies on ourselves.

Every occasion for elections brings agony to us. We do mention democracy, but it results in destruction. The defunct Pakistan People's Party (PPP) does not want elections. It only creates confusion to provide opportunities for further destruction of the country according to Bhutto's scheme. The external enemy is easily perceived but the internal enemy cannot be seen. It is the task of the country's patriots to search for the enemies within and be totally prepared to annihilate them.

9779

CSO: 4656/28

COMMENTARY REFLECTS ON 'GRIM' POLITICAL SITUATION

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 4

[Editorial by G. M. Asar: "Is the Morrow to be Grim?"]

[Text]

In the post-Independence Day cataclysm for the lifting of martial law, now in its seventh year, and revival of democratic rule in the country, which has embroiled vast areas of the land, taken a toll of scores of lives and deprived thousands of their freedom consequent on large scale arrests and incarceration, about two hundred mongrels also perished in Moro, Sind. The induction of dogs in the expression of political dissent was an insane act of cruelty to innocent animals. The serious upheaval in which issues of grave import are involved, was no occasion for levity, if that is what the ingenuous authors of the weird interlude believed they were indulging in.

Why did dogs who guard your homes and watch your animals against predatory cattle-lifters have to die for a cause that was not theirs? They are a faithful lot, more faithful than fair-weather friends, and that for an odd crumb you may throw at them. Even the contemptible pariah-dogs and pye-dogs wag their tails in abject servility if you show them some kindness. Pet dogs are known to have stayed behind and died of hunger and thirst guarding the carcasses of their mountaineer masters who met fatal accidents at high altitudes leaving their tell-tale skeletons beside those of their masters to unfold the story of their sacrifice to latter day mountaineers in their climb.

The movement has been launch-

ed for a cause the validity of which no one will doubt. But when a battle is fought for high stakes on both sides, with one of the sides fighting for restoration of its legitimate rights, and the other for its survival, it could not have been in the nature of a game of rugger for the contenders to come out of it with just a few bruises.

Whether the long-awaited moment of truth is near at hand or distant still, no one can tell. One thing, however, is certain. But, if history repeats itself as it has always done, popular urges cannot be swamped for long. It has happened even in our own country in 1969 and 1977 and proved that ill-founded propaganda and clever subterfuges are short-lived. All it needs is a modicum of political sagacity in populist ranks, and judiciousness and foresight in the authorities. Time is of vital importance. If it is toyed with, it can deepen the wounds and aggravate the pain, if it is not allowed to be lost, it can heal gashes, however deep, and banish the malady.

The gaping chasm between the rulers and the ruled has to be bridged, and bridged soon before it becomes insurmountable. For, if it does, both sides will collapse and give way to pandemonium. And that would be a tragedy of the worst order which may tempt others to appear in the deceptive garb of Messiahs to restore order and fill the vacuum. If that happens, the blood and tears of the millions that went into the making of Pakistan on the eve of independence in the early months of 1947 will have been shed and lost as if without any rhyme or reason. And some one somewhere will gloat over our dead bodies proclaiming that

what was left of the 'Two-Nation' theory, which was partly drowned in the Bay of Bengal in 1971, had permanently been laid to rest in its watery grave in the Arabian Sea.

If that, God forbid, should ever happen, who will be to blame? The powerless people clamouring for their rights, or their unbending masters holding fast to all the levers of power? What will be the verdict of successive generations of historians? At first sight it may appear to be of little consequence, when the damage does not seem imminent, but if serious thought is given to the matter, the haze is bound to clear up and reveal the grim contours of the unflattering inferences that will be drawn at a later date.

CSO: 4600/122

MRD LEADER SAYS LIFTING MARTIAL LAW ONLY WAY OUT OF POLITICAL IMPASSE

Karachi DAWN in English 2 Nov 83 p 9

[Text]

Maulana Syed Mohammad Shah Amrohi, Convener of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), has said that democratic process "in letter and in spirit" could not be restored in the presence of the Provisional Constitutional Order (PCO) and under the umbrella of martial law.

The Maulana made this observation at a meeting with a group of foreign correspondents in Karachi on Tuesday parts of which were made available to the national Press through a press release.

The only way out of the present impasse, in his view, was to lift martial law, rescind the PCO, and restore the 1973 Constitution in toto.

Maulana Amrohi suggested that the Army should go back to the barracks simultaneously as the judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts take oath under the 1973 Constitution. This should include those who had refused to swear allegiance to the PCO. They should be reinstated.

The Supreme Court, thus reverted to its original position, could take charge of the national affairs, he said. It should order immediate release of all the political prisoners, lift ban on political parties and the political activities, announce a three month election schedule and hand over power to the elected representatives, he added.

The MRD convener rejected the President's Aug. 12 political framework. He brushed aside all talk relating to the balancing of powers between the President and the Prime Minister, "Islamisation" of the 1973 Constitution, and the questions of registered and unregistered political parties, party or no-party elections, proportional representation, etc.

TEHRIK'S QUITTING MRD RULED OUT

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 8

[Text]

PLSHAWAR, Nov. 2: The provincial President of the defunct PPP Khan Bahadur Khan has ruled out the possibility of Tehrik-e-Islah pulling out of the MRD and following a different course.

Addressing a Press conference here today he said that the impression might have cropped up due to the recent contact between Air Marshal (Retd) Asghar Khan and General K.M. Arif but the other components of the MRD had no doubt in their mind that the TIP will continue to play its full role in the fold. The Tehrik itself, he said, had made it clear.

Regarding yesterday's meeting of the provincial committee of his party he said that it deliberated at length over the current economic and political situation in the country and observed that in order to prolong its stay the government was

trying to divide the political parties in right and left. This, the meeting said, was being done in the name of Islam although the basic principle of Islami Musawat had been totally ignored and the economic policies were based on western capitalism which widened the gap between the

rich and the poor.

The committee further pointed out that country had unnecessarily been involved in the tug of war between the two power blocs. As a result of this policy the relations with the neighbouring countries had become strained and the people of Pakistan were naturally disturbed over the uncertain state of affairs in the country. The meeting rejected the August twelve announcement of the President which, it said, had left no doubt about the intentions of the government to hold no elections and instead have a powerless nominated body on the pattern of the federal Shooru. The countrywide movement for the restoration of the peoples rights the meeting said has been completed success despite use of force and other pressures. It expressed its full solidarity with the people of Sind and stressed that no dialogue could be held with the present government unless it released all the political detainees, restored the 1973 Constitution and held elections by March 1984, according to the rules that existed before the imposition of martial law.

CSO: 4600/123

SINDHIS PRAISED FOR MAKING MRD MOVEMENT FAILURE

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 12 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] The Pakistan Himayet Tehrik yesterday felicitated the people of Sind for making the so-called movement for restoration of democracy a complete failure.

Addressing a joint Press conference here yesterday, the Central President and Secretary of the Tehrik, Mr Mohammad Suleman Khawar and Nawab Mansoor Alam, respectively, said that when the nefarious designs of the self-styled leaders of MRD had been exposed the people should fully extend their cooperation to the present regime which was striving hard to implement Nizam-i-Islam in the country.

They said that to continue the process of Islah-i-Muashra, the Pakistan Himayet Tehrik would organise convention, symposia and conferences throughout the country and in this connection, the first all-Sind Islah-i-Muashra Convention would be held on Nov. 21 in Larkana in which workers of the Tehrik from Sind, and observers from Punjab, N.W.F.P., Baluchistan and Tribal Areas would participate.

They said that the leaders of the Tehrik, including Vice-Presidents Syed Hassan Masroor and Manzoor Ahmad Mughal and Deputy Secretary Malik Abdul Bari, had recently undertaken a tour of all the districts of Sind and found that the situation everywhere was quite normal.

They appealed to the workers of the Tehrik and the people of Sind to make the convention a great success.

CSO: 4600/140

LEADER RESIGNS FROM PARTY OVER TALKS WITH REGIME

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 6

[Text]

LAHORE, Nov. 2: Abdul Tahir Ansari has tendered his resignation from the basic membership and chairmanship of the Sind Provincial Organisation of the outlawed Gharib Awam Party as he was not allowed by the leader of the party Tahir Hussain to submit before the President, during negotiations tomorrow, the situation obtaining in Sind, and other demands "which are necessary to be met if the situation in the country is to be improved."

Disclosing this at a Press conference at the Lahore Press Club today the Sukkur based lawyer said that during the meeting of Gharib Awam Party yesterday convened to finalise agenda for discussion with the President he emphasised that he would talk, besides situation in Sind, about the release of all political prisoners, withdrawal of provisional constitutional order, doing away with military courts and stopping award of harsh punishments to political workers and lawyers. But the party leader forbade him to do so which made him to resign. He described the negotiations which exclude "matters of vital importance" as a "mere decent" adding that it would serve no purpose.

Abdul Tahir Ansari said that there was no separatist movement in Sind and Sindhis, whether old or new, were fighting for their democratic, social, and economic rights. As far as the "Sindh Desh"

movement he said it has died down and Sindhis wanted fulfilment of their genuine demands within united Pakistan.

Demanding a high level enquiry into Sind affairs by a tribunal comprising the Chief Justice of Pakistan and Chief Justice of all the four provinces Mr. Ansari asserted that discrimination was being meted out to Sindhis so far as quotas in the public service and allotment of lands was concerned. He told newsmen that quotas of Sind domiciled people in services was: 15 per cent in tourism, 17 per cent in National Bank of Pakistan and 13 per cent each in National Shipping Corporation and Karachi Power Plant. In PIA only 881 Sindhis were on higher posts as against 8300 gazetted officers. Similarly only six out of 230 in the foreign service and less than one thousand out of 32,000 in telephone and telegraph department were Sindhis. As for allotment of lands, he added, that the restriction levied in the Ayub era on Sindhi Haris of getting 24 acres of barren land in Gaddu Barrage, which could not be sold within 20 years and which was also not transferable, was still in force. He also talked of appointment of non-Sindhis in all the important administrative offices in that province adding that for the first time since that inception of Pakistan a Sindhi was appointed as Inspector General of Police.

CSO: 4600/123

ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING REPORTED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Nov 83 p 1

[Article by Ashraf Hashmi]

[Text] ISLAMABAD, Oct. 31--The Federal Election Commission is meeting here tomorrow to review in detail the necessary arrangements for holding of general elections, it was reliably learnt here today.

Sources close to the Commission said the meeting, expected to continue for three days, will take a general view of the situation to assess as to how much time will be required if it was directed to hold the elections.

A high-level official source when contacted maintained that there seems to be no big hurdle if the government decided to hold the general elections in the country any time during the next year 1984. The Commission, he said, had already completed the electoral rolls and the only thing now required to be done by it concerned to the delimitation of the constituencies. He said if the Commission was given an indication of a possible date it would be able to hold the elections much earlier than being expected.

The basis of the forthcoming elections was the major issue the government was to decide. He said if the elections were held on party basis the procedure would be different than if they were held on non-party basis. A green signal on this count, he said, was prerequisite to the Commission's functioning. Once the issue of the basis of the elections was finally approved and announced by the government holding of elections would not be a problem for the commission and there would be no delay on its part.

He, however, maintained that the next year could be described as the elections year and he himself was very much optimistic about it.

CSO: 4600/121

PAKISTAN POLITICIANS: TYPES, BACKGROUNDS ANALYZED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Nov 83 p 4

[Article by Dr. Mohammad Waseem: "Politicians of Pakistan--A Profile--: Some Typologies]

[Text] Take a bird's eye view of Pakistan politicians, both present and past. A short list will include Liaquat Ali Khan, Daultana, Choudhry Mohammad Ali, Shaukat Hayat, Nawabzada Nasrullah, Mufti Mahmood, Bhutto, Qayum Khan, Wali Khan, Asghar Khan, G. M. Syed, Maulana Maudoodi, Pir of Pagara, Noorani Mian, Sardar Mengal, Sardar Khair Bux Marri, Bizenjo, and Mian Iftikharuddin. 12 out of 18 are from a feudal/tribal background, one each is from the professional middle class, civil bureaucracy and military and the other three are from the ulema. These politicians have pursued policies determined to a large extent by their respective backgrounds. As they have been operating within the existing framework of politics in post-independence Pakistan, they variously reflect the interaction of, on the one hand, the State system and on the other hand, the respective interests which they have represented in their capacity as elected members of the parliament or as members/office holders of political parties fighting elections.

A landlord is most typically a political animal. He joins parties, fights elections and claims to represent his constituency in the assembly. All these activities are rooted in his local power base through which he operates as a broker between the general masses and the State bureaucracy. Most often he is a lawyer too, which simply facilitates his brokerage function. He interprets law, seeks redress of public grievances through courts and establishes a clientele on that basis. As long as the present property relations exist in this country, the landlord--politicians' hold over their respective followers will remain unchallenged. That also explains why they have been so conservative in their approach to land reforms.

On the other hand, the only channel available to these politicians for gaining political power is elections. That involves seeking votes from the masses, and thus canvassing in their own followers as legitimate candidates. Electoral politics becomes, therefore, the hub of all political activity, involving

all sorts of good and bad practices. By the same token, such landlord-politicians, as Mian Iftikharuddin, Daultana and Bhutto, introduced various reforms related to agrarian relations and agricultural property-holding, so that they could maintain their functional legitimacy in the eyes of the public. Typically the electoral politics tends to be progressive in its general impact because it establishes a bridge across the gap between the State and the Society. That is why it is generally considered better than the pre-modern State systems based on dynastic rule, or such modern nonrepresentative systems as colonialism, fascism and military dictatorship. Ideally, it strikes a balance between political ambitions of landlords and public censure. It offers power to the politicians but keeps the final source of authority out of their hands.

Urban Politicians

Our second category includes politicians from urban middle class background. They are either directly from professions (like Qayum Khan, S. M. Zafar, Khawaja Safdar and Khurshid Hasan Mir), or via the civil and military bureaucracies. Choudhry Mohammad Ali, J. A. Rahim and a coterie of ex-bureaucrats in the Tehrik represent the officialdom in politics, while Air Marshal Asghar Khan heads the list of ex-military politicians. Unlike the landlord politicians, these urbanite politicians lack an intrinsic power base in their respective localities. They are therefore compelled to look around for support within the State System. Choudhry Mohammad Ali is the arch-example of an officer who rose on the shoulders of bureaucrats. The latter distrusted politicians and thus sponsored him as a politician in his own right. Other officers have generally played a secondary role in political parties after their conversion to politics. These bureaucrats enter the political arena with various formulas to salvage the nation. These formulas are usually the result of looking at the public from the administration desk for a lifetime. They usually fail to evolve a rapport with the public because they view it as a mass of applicants for redress of their grievances from the State and not as participants in the political and administrative decision-making itself.

The ex-military men who ventured into politics lost their nerve even more quickly than their civilian counterparts. One after the other, Air Marshal Asghar Khan, General Azam Khan, General Sarfraz, Air Marshal Nur Khan, General Niazi and General Tikka Khan tried to seek a political career. Almost all of them emerged at a time when the incumbent government was under mass pressure on one issue or the other. Recently General A. K. Chishti has joined the bandwagon against the present government and has thus kept the tradition going. Except Asghar Khan, none of them survived the 'breaking in' period. It seems that their disciplinarian training is responsible for their early disenchantment from politics which needs a patient understanding of the public demands from the public end, not from their own end. The crucial exercise of canvassing and convincing the general public is beyond the capacity of typical ex-military man, who is essentially result-oriented and thus tends to dispense with the public's so-called delaying role. But that is where lies the root of democracy.

The non-military bureaucratic urban middle class politicians come either from professions or intelligentsia. From Qayum Khan to S. M. Zafar, a whole

generation of successful professionals have risen to high political positions either on the shoulders of the landlord politicians or as a result of serving the purpose of incumbent governments in some crucial areas. For example, Nayum Khan constantly played on the Centre's fears of Khan Brothers in the NWFP and secured a long political innings on that basis. However, these professionals, most of them being lawyers, have played a very important role in keeping the politics of Pakistan on an even keel. Along-with their intellectual compatriots, they have constantly mobilised the masses along relatively pragmatic lines and have thus served the purpose of bringing down the influence of landlords during the elections. They did so especially in the 1970 elections. Through legalistic approach and a general concern with expanding the popular base of the State system, they have played a crucial role in maintaining the public desire for democracy alive. However, within this political spectrum, variations of ideology abound. From conservatives like S. M. Zafar to radicals like Sheikh Rashid there is a whole spectrum of middle class political opinion, which has found an outlet whenever public contact is allowed.

Ulema

Ulema are the third political category in our present typologies. Although a great variety of small religious groups exist in the country sometimes hand-picked by the government itself, there can be outlined three main types of ulema, identified with three different schools of thought, each represented through a political party. Both the JIP headed by Noorani Mian and the JI dominated by Maulana Fazalur Rahman are easier to identify. They belong to Brailvi and Deobandi Schools respectively. The latter is more politically motivated with its long anti-imperialist struggle to boast of. The former is relatively docile. It has usually avoided a direct opposition role under the influence of such people in its ranks as Maulana Abdus Sattar Niazi. The third party, the Jamaat Islami, is technically speaking a non-ulema party, although ulema have often occupied responsible positions in its hierarchy. Essentially it is a party of conservative middle class professionals who seem strongly committed to preservation of the status-quo. After Maulana Maudoodi, Mian Irfail Muhammad, Prof. Ghafur Ahmad and Chaudry Rumat Eliahi have represented various ideological wings of the party.

Like landlords, the ulema of these parties have a relatively stable clientele, with a high degree of internal variations in their political attitudes towards electoral politics. Unlike landlords, however, they speak an overwhelmingly ideological language which has little relevance for the world of the common man, as characterized by the day-to-day problems related to various departments of the district administration i.e. industrial relations, tenurial relations, water and electric supply, road transport and a score of other issues directly impinging on the life-pattern of the general populace. Thus, the ulema have failed to win any considerably large mass popularity.

Bureaucratic Apparatus

Politicians of all these categories have not been able to secure a permanently viable parliamentary rule. One learns a lot about their insincerity,

'treachery' and corrupt practices. This is a weak argument because it ignores the objective reasons of politicians' public behaviour shaped by the structural features of the State in Pakistan. For example, all meaningful power is concentrated in the hands of the bureaucratic apparatus, which leaves an acute sense of powerlessness among the politicians even while in government. The fact that final authority lies with the extra-parliamentary institutions is the basic malady in this country. Politicians derive their ideological/political roles from this pattern and reflect the structure through their various approaches accordingly.

For example, there have been two generations of regionalist politicians, ranging from G. M. Syed and Chaffar Khan to Mujib-ur-Rehman, Marri, Mengal and Bizenjo. They are clearly the product of the over-centralized state system of Pakistan, leading to an uneasy federation. Likewise, the ulema-politicians are the inheritors of the Two-nation Theory which they have reformulated along increasingly orthodox lines. The leftist politicians, representing various shades of ideological commitment, have had their political constituency in the socialist intelligentsia, trade union movement and tenants/poor peasants. From Quaid-e-Azam to Pir Pagara, as President of the Muslim League, there has been a steep decline of calibre among politicians, because of the structural constraints disallowing periodical emergence of new crop of leaders through the churning process of electoral politics. The state system of Pakistan has been weakened precisely because no system of public censure has developed in this country.

A deep-rooted hostility of the civil and military bureaucrats towards politicians has been manifested, as for them, the latter are permanent villains. Unfortunately for them each Martial Law government tried but failed to eliminate the role of politicians from the country. The previous two Martial Laws finally succumbed to their power, although initially they had displaced them from all positions of authority. It will be interesting to note how long the present Martial Law regime can hold itself against politicians. The question arises as to what is the secret of politicians' remarkable capacity to survive in a country like Pakistan where three Presidents in uniform have held power for 19 out of 36 years of its history and where only one undisputedly fair national election has been held so far. The answer seems to lie in the peculiar political/constitutional structure of the State which has all along kept a role for politicians. The civil and military bureaucracies have been operating through the age-old colonial system of selective patronage of local elite, based on a firm belief in the masses' incapacity to take care of themselves. A great majority of politicians on the other hand have operated on the premises that political legitimacy lies finally in a popular mandate. The MRD movement has shown that the modern concept of rulership, with at least a formal consent of the ruled, seems to have prevailed on the colonial conception of the one-way flow of authority as represented by the politicians and the civil military bureaucracies respectively.

INQUIRY DEMANDED INTO RAILWAY CONTRACT SCANDAL

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Nov 83 p 4

[Editorial: "P.R. Scandal"]

[Text]

ONE of Pakistan Railway's most ambitious projects — the installation of a microwave signalling system, has been derailed by the sudden flight of the consultants in charge of construction work. This huge undertaking, estimated to cost Rs. 800 million, was abandoned in midstream earlier this month by an American consultant firm all of whose staff, said to be 50 in number, disappeared one fine morning. It is truly extraordinary how so many people could manage to slip away without the P.R. being even dimly aware of it. They are said to have sneaked into India across the Wagah border because their firm had run into heavy loss, so much so that it was unable to pay its local sub-contractors nearly ten million rupees due to them.

It is relevant to ask whether the P.R. authorities were cognisant of this state of affairs. Having engaged a foreign firm for a costly show, piece project, was it not their duty to keep tabs on its operations, particularly on the manner in which the funds were being spent? Apparently, they have been guilty of lax supervision. Worse still, they do not even know how much work has been accomplished so far. One would expect progress on such a big and prestigious venture to be carefully monitored at various stages of construction. But here too the required degree of vigilance appears to have been lacking. According to Press reports, a survey of the 266 sites of the project is only now being undertaken to determine the extent of work that has been completed to date.

Already Rs. 600 million have been invested in the project which was due to be completed by December 1984. And now more money is proposed to be spent on a trip to Washington by P.R. officials to discuss the matter with the firm at its headquarters. The whole

sorry incident leaves an unpleasant taste in the mouth. A large amount of public money is at stake and the people have every right to demand an explanation from those who appear to be squandering it. The Minister in charge would be well advised to launch a high-level inquiry into the scandal so that those guilty of dereliction of duty can be punished and the P.R. staff gingered up.

CSO: 4600/122

SHOORA PROCEEDINGS: BREACH OF CONTRACT IN RAILWAY PROJECT CONFIRMED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 1

[Article by Ashraf Hashmi]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Nov 2: The Railway Minister Nawab Abdul Ghafoor of Hoti today confirmed reports that the American consultant Kentron who were given the contract for the construction and installation of tele-communication and related signalling projects also called the microwave project had left the work without any notice or any other information and have abandoned the project causing a breach of contract.

The Minister was speaking on an adjournment motion tabled by a member from Karachi, Zain Noorani. The member wanted to discuss a story published in The Muslim on Oct. 28 disclosing that the American firm after doing part of the work on the project and drawing 600 million rupees had suddenly abandoned the work and disappeared from the scene.

Explaining the correct position the minister informed the house that the value of the contract was Rs. 540 million including the component of foreign exchange to the tune of 37.186 million dollars. The actual expenditure incurred so far, he said, came to Rs. 510 million and all the payments were made progressively for the actual work done and shipment of equipment against the letter of credit.

He said that all 266 buildings and 266 towers required to be finished under the contract have been completed, 100 per cent antennas have been received and 80 per cent of them have been installed. The Minister, however, admitted that the signalling equipment worth one million dollars has

not been received. The government by taking timely action has recovered the bank guarantee amounting to Rs. 66.2 million placing the project to what he described as on much a safer footing.

He assured the House that every effort will be made to complete the project within the available resources.

Following the Minister's statement the mover did not press his motion.

The Finance Minister, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, today told the Majlis-e-Shoora that the government is doing everything possible to check the prices and that there has been no increase in the prices of commodities controlled by the government.

He was speaking on an another adjournment motion by Hafiz Mohammad Taqi seeking to discuss the increase in the prices of flour-bags (thella atta), beef, mutton and eggs in the open market.

The Finance Minister said despite 100 per cent increase in the prices of edible oil in international market, there is no increase in the prices of cooking oil and vegetable ghee at home because of exorbitant subsidy being provided by the government. He however, stated that if the country continued to depend on imported oil, then there would be no alternative but to increase the prices.

He said the prices of pulses have in fact gone down mainly because of the availability of gram.

As for soap, except for one brand, he said there is no change in its prices.

About the increase in prices of flour bags, he said these would automatically come down if the people resorted to using atta available at ration depots.

He said there was a nominal increase of 3.6 per cent in the price of beef, 2.8 per cent in beef and 3.1 per cent in the price of mutton. The increase of 8.4 per cent in the prices of eggs, he said was mainly due to seasonal factor.

The Finance Minister said that despite all these increase, the overall impact on the common man would be about .32 (point three two) per cent.

The Food Minister, Vice Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua explaining the increase in the prices of flour bags said atta was available at ration depots at fixed price of one rupee eighty paise per kg as a result of subsidy being provided by the government. He said it is the endeavour of the government to provide atta at proper rates through rationing system.

The Mover did not press his adjournment motion.

The House rose for the day to meet again tomorrow at 9 a.m.

CSO: 4600/122

SHOORA MOTION ON COLLEGE CLOSING DISALLOWED

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Nov 83 p 8

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Oct. 31: An attempt to discuss the government decision relating to the shifting and closure of the Islamabad Polytechnic College in the Majlis-e-Shoora through a adjournment motion was not successful as after listening to the two Federal Ministers' point of view the Chairman Kh. Muhammad Safdar disallowed the motion moved jointly by seven members belonging to Rawalpindi on the ground that the matter related to the provincial government.

Earliest moving the motion Maulana Saeed-ur-Rehman expressed concern over the government decision and said it will cause lot of difficulties to the 3000 students to continue studies and badly effect the people of the surrounding districts. Instead of shifting an army school from Quetta to this

college, he said, the government should restore its previous position and if there is any law and order problem the members belonging to the area could be taken into confidence. He said due to the misbehaviour of a handful of students, majority of students should not be made to suffer.

Minister for Planning and Development Mr. Mahhubul Haq opposing the motion said it was provincial matter. The Minister for Production Lt. Gen. Saeed Qadir opposing the motion denied the assertion made by the mover that the college was the biggest in Asia. He said the decision to shift the Army Engineering College from Quetta was made to utilise the college building which was lying vacant for the last one year. He said the Army will pay to the provincial government and out of that payment it would construct three schools in the area. He said a separate civilian wing will also be reserved in the army college to enroll students from general public.

CSO: 4600/121

LOAN FOR EXPANSION OF GAS FACILITIES GRANTED

Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 24

[Text] MANILA, Nov 17: The Asian Development Bank today approved, in conjunction with its own loan, its first commercial co-financing loan under the recently introduced complementary financing scheme for the expansion of natural gas facilities in Pakistan, an announcement said.

The ADB's 19.3-million-dollar loan will help finance an expansion of the country's purification and compression facilities for natural gas, Pakistan's largest domestic energy resource.

Co-financing will be provided by a complementary loan of 1.2 billion Japanese yen (equivalent to five million dollars) from a syndicate of Japanese banks led by the Toyo Trust and Banking Company Limited.

The ADB's complementary financing scheme, which is a new mechanism for promoting commercial co-financing, involves two separate loans from the Bank — an ADB loan extended from its own resources on normal lending terms and a complementary loan extended on commercial terms. Participation in the complementary loan is then sold, without recourse to the ADB, to interested commercial lenders, to whose requirements the loan is structured.

Besides assisting the gas project, the complementary loan gives the Government of Pakistan and the Sui Gas Transmission Company Limited (SGTC), the project's executing agency, beneficial exposure to the international capital market.

The experience gained in this new field of financing is regarded as opening up opportunities for its possible further use in other ADB-assisted projects under Pakistan's Sixth Five-Year Plan, particularly in the energy sector.

The project for which financing was approved today seeks to eliminate bottlenecks in the gas transport system, now resulting in critical gas shortages, and thereby maintain adequate gas supplies to consumers in southern Pakistan.

The expansion will augment the gas treatment capacity for the Sui-Karachi system by about 35,000 million cubic feet a year. It is expected to save the country about 100 million dollar a year in foreign exchange by substituting indigenous gas for imported oil.

The project involves installation of:

— A gas purification plant with a capacity of 120 million cubic feet a day.

— A gas dehydration plant with the same capacity.

— Ancillary facilities for these plants, and

— Two 1,500 HP, gas-driven reciprocating compressors.

The Bank loan will finance the entire foreign-exchange cost of the 30.4 million dollars total cost of the project — the fourth Bank-assisted gas project in Pakistan. Drawn from the Bank's ordinary capital resources, the loan is repayable in 16 years, including a grace period of six years, at an interest rate of 10.5 per cent a year. The six-year grace period will permit the cash flow requirements of SGTC to be eased during the repayment period of the complementary loan.

The complementary co-financing will cover part of the project's local-currency cost. This loan will mature in seven years, including a grace period of three years, at an interest rate of 0.5 per cent above the long-term prime lending rate in Japan on a six-month floating basis.

Both the ADB's loan and the complementary loan will be guaranteed by Pakistan.

The remainder of the project cost will be borne by SGTC.

The project is scheduled to be completed at the end of 1985.

AIR POLLUTION MONITORING PROJECT PLANNED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 12 Nov 83 p 3

[Text] SUPARCO will shortly launch air pollution monitoring project using a laser radar, it was officially announced here yesterday.

The announcement said that in this context the SUPARCO has already established contact with DFVLR--the space agency of the Federal Republic of Germany.

DFVLR is assisting the SUPARCO and has made its experts available to it in the area of natural resources survey through application of remote sensing technology the statement added.

Director of the Institute of Atmospheric Physics of DFVLR Dr M. E. Reinhardt, now in Pakistan, held consultations with SUPARCO Chairman and other officials on the project.

Reinhardt who is scheduled to leave here for home on Sunday also delivered a series of lectures on the use of laser radar pollution monitoring.

The statement said air pollution has assumed alarming proportions in many industrial towns of the developed as well as developing countries.

With each passing day, it poses a greater hazard for the health and well-being of the residents. There is therefore an urgent need to take all possible steps so that the pollutants remain within the maximum allowable level. For an integrated effort to do so, both technical as well as legal measures may have to be taken as soon as possible in order that satisfactory results are obtained in this regard.

"During the past few years, laser radars have been put to increasing use in atmospheric research including pollution monitoring. It is now possible to measure the amounts of various pollutants such as Co, Co 2, No, No 2 besides water vapour and other constituents present in the atmosphere. Laser radars can be mounted on a suitable van or taken on-board an aircraft for on-location or remote monitoring of pollutants. Similarly, a satellite borne laser can extend the range of these measurements to provide for large area coverage."
--APP.

CSO: 4600/140

ALL-PAKISTAN SCIENCE CONFERENCE PLANNED

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 83 p 7

[Text] A large contingent of prominent scientists from home and abroad will participate in the five-day 29th annual All-Pakistan Science Conference scheduled to commence from Dec. 26 at the Karachi University Campus.

The Pakistan Association for the Advancement of Science (PAAS) in a Press release said here yesterday that the conference was annually held to help the country's scientists to update and enrich further their informations on the advancement of scientific knowledge on varied subjects in general and their specific field, in particular, round the globe through personal contacts and general discussion with Pakistani and overseas eminent scientists.

To ensure success of the conference, the PAAS has chalked out an elaborate programme and set up some 13 committees.

The subjects chosen for deliberations for the ensuing conference consists of agriculture and forestry, animal husbandry, fisheries and oceanography, biochemistry, microbiology and nutrition, biology, botany, zoology, entomology and cytogenetics, chemistry (both pure and applied), education and social sciences, engineering with particular reference to irrigation, hydel-power, hydraulics, communications, chemical engineering, electricity, sanitary and agricultural engineering geology--geography and anthropology, medicine--pharmacy, veterinary science and public health--and physics--mathematics, statistics, astronomy and meteorology.--APP [as published]

CSO: 4600/143

NEW BRIDGE OVER INDUS TO OPEN NEXT YEAR

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 6

[Text]

MUZAFFARGARH, Nov. 2: A bridge over the river Indus near Ghazi Ghat will be opened for traffic next February. This was stated here by the provincial Minister for Agriculture, Irrigation and Forest, Brig (Retd) Ghazanfar Mohammad Khan, while examining the bridge near Muzaffargarh.

Briefing correspondents, the Minister said a modern, multi-purpose, 3,410 foot bridge is being completed at a revised estimated cost of Rs. 350 million (instead of Rs. 260 million) under the supervision of Pakistani engineers and designers.

The Minister said the earlier plan failed to divert the river water. Now a temporary regulator was being constructed at a cost of Rs.

17.5 million to divert the flow of water, while spurs were expected to be completed by December at a cost of Rs. 70 million.

The Minister said the bridge will be able to pass more than 10 lakh cusecs of water during flood season. The past record flood was 6.5 lakh cusecs.

He said Pakistani engineers were performing an engineering feat by narrowing down the 14 kilometre wide Indus to only 3,410 foot with the help of spurs and guide banks.

With the completion of this project, the distance between Multan and Dera Ghazi Khan would be reduced to 93 kilometre, and guide banks would check the soil erosion near Drahma and Samina, allowing thousand of acres of a fallow land to be reclaimed, the Minister added.

CSO: 4600/123

BRIEFS

RELEASE OF ARRESTED STUDENTS URGED--The Karachi President of National Student Federation, Mr. Jafferul Hasan, has demanded the release of all the arrested students. The NSF President who, along-with a central committee member, Mr Sadiq Jarchori, was released on Oct 26 after a month's detention claimed that some 3,000 students were arrested in the province. Addressing a press conference he appealed to Prof. Ghulam Mustafa Shah, Prof. Karrar Husain, Miss Anita Ghulam Ali, Mr. Minhaj Barna, Justice (retired) Fakharuddin G. Ibrahim and Justice Khuda Bux Mari to visit the jails in Sind to apprise the people of the treatment meted out to the students and other detenus. He alleged that the three NSF workers--Mr Zafar Iqbal, Choudhry Sher Ali and Rafiq Khan--arrested in Multan on Oct 23 have been shifted and their whereabouts were not known. He further demanded that detained studnets who want to prepare for their examinations be provided such facilities, and called for the re-opening of all the closed educational institutions, holding of students unions elections in Sind and Baluchistan, lifting of Martial Law; restoration of democracy; release of political workers; and the Press curbs. [Karachi DAWN in English 2 Nov 83 p 8]

JUTE MILL TO START PRODUCTION--PESHAWAR, Oct. 31--The NWFP first Jute Mill set up at a cost of Rs. 110 million including Rs. 60 million in foreign exchange, will go into regular commercial production on Nov. 8. The mills is based on raw materials from Bangladesh and has the capacity to produce 6,000 tons of jute goods per annum. Bulk of the machinery has been imported from U.K. It had arrived in Karachi in January this year and within three months, the mill went into trial production in April and that is perhaps the shortest period for a unit of this size to go into production. It will provide employment opportunities to about 600 skilled and unskilled workers. Incidentally, the mills has been put up by the same group Farooqs, which had established the first textile mill in NWFP in 1954. Though presently, the mills is dependent on imported jute, within five years, it is required to meet 75 per cent of the requirements from within. For this purpose, experimental farms are being laid adjacent to the site for the production of jute. The mills will be inaugurated by the NWFP Governor Lt. Gen. Fazle Haq. [Karachi DAWN in English 1 Nov 83 p 7]

SIND MINISTER MEETS PAGARO'S SON--HYDERABAD, Oct. 31--The Sind Minister for Agriculture, Sardar Ghulam Mohammed Mehar, held a detailed meeting with Pir Sabghatullah Rashdi, alias Raja Sain, son of Pir Pagaro. During the meeting, which lasted for a couple of hours in Pir Jo Goth, the ancestral village of

Pir Pagaro, the Minister, who is sitting Chairman, District Council, Sukkur, and the younger Pir, who is sitting Chairman of Khairpur District Council, discussed at length issues relating to the forthcoming elections of chairmen and vice chairmen of the three adjoining districts, Sukkur, Khairpur and Shikarpur. The Minister, who is Sardar of the Mehr tribe, and the Pir, who has lakhs of followers, always took different line in politics. This is the first time they have come to the table to exchange views in respect of elections and politics. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 1 Nov 83 p 6]

VIOLENCE AGAINST LAWYERS CONDEMNED--GUJRAT, Nov. 2--An office-bearer of the District Bar Association, Gujrat, Ch. Asghar Ali Ghural, has condemned the recent violence by police on lawyers. He demanded that all arrested lawyers be released, and cases against them be withdrawn. He said the lawyers community has played an historic role for the restoration of the Constitution of 1973 and democracy in Pakistan. CANDIDATES: The publication of the schedule for the Punjab Bar Council elections has evoked interest among lawyers here, and candidates have started contacting the electorate. The lawyers are also required to produce their professional identity cards at the time of casting their vote. About half a dozen candidates are expected to contest for one seat for the whole district. Ch. Manzoor Ahmed from Kharian, Chaudhry Asghar Ali Ghural and Ch. Muhammad Nawaz from Gujrat are among the prospective candidates. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 6]

DIALOGUE TERMED 'FIXED FIGHT'--LAHORE, Nov. 2--Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi, President outlawed Qayyum-Group of Pakistan, Muslim League, has described as "Noora Kushti" (fixed fight) the political dialogue between the government and certain political parties and expressed his surprise as to how those political leaders could talk of democracy who have erstwhile been giving in black and white that martial law should continue as long as possible. Speaking at a reception here this afternoon the Retired Lt. Gen. suggested strengthening the armed forces of the country adding that "the best political argument comes from the mouth of a cannon". Maintaining that peace and friendship of a country depended on its military strength Gen. Niazi suggested that work should be done to remove the impression among the peoples mind that armed forces were not meant for performing administrative jobs and that their only duty was to defend the country's borders. The chief of Qayyum League did not favour holding of elections forthwith and suggested that maintenance of law and order should be tended to first after which elections could be arranged. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 6]

MARTIAL LAW CALLED 'AD HOC'--KARACHI, Nov. 2--Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah, ex-vice Chancellor of the University of Sind has said that ad hoc laws and ad hoc governments are a dangerous phenomenon. In a statement here today he said that martial law is an ad hoc law under which we have lived for years. "Under ad hoc conditions of administration and martial law, The State loses its meaning and significance. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 6]

TI LEADERS ARRESTED--LARKANA, Nov 1--Local police arrested Nisar Ahmed Khuhro and Zia Ahmed Jalbani, Central Joint Secretary and District chief of defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqal. Jalbani is also the General Secretary of District Bar Association, Larkana. [Karachi DAWN in English 2 Nov 83 p 10]

BIZENJO UNDER HOUSE ARREST--Mir Ghaus Bakhsh Bizenjo, President of the defunct Pakistan National Party (PNP), has been shifted from Central Jail, Machh (Baluchistan), to his home town, Naal, where he is under house arrest, according to information reaching Karachi. Mr. Bizenjo had defied the detention orders by driving out of Naal to Bostan for offering condolences to the bereaved families of those killed in Baluchistan recently. He was intercepted en route and brought to the Central Jail, Machh, where he was detained under a fresh order. [Karachi DAWN in English 2 Nov 83 p 12]

RELEASE OF PEASANTS URGED--KARACHI, 3 Nov --Moulana Mohammed Shah Amroti, the Convener of MRD has warned the government that if people arrested during the MRD campaign were not released immediately, the crops would suffer particularly cotton, which will harm the country immensely. Addressing a Press conference here on Tuesday, he said that since most of the people arrested, particularly in Sind, were peasants, and since the harvest season has started, the crops would be destroyed if not harvested in time. He demanded that the government delegate powers to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who should announce the election schedule immediately. "This is the only way to avoid the disaster looming large on the country," he added. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 3 Nov 83 p 8]

CLOSING OF INSTITUTIONS PROTESTED--PESHAWAR, Nov 3--The Islami Jamiate Tula-ba, holding a protest meeting here against the continued closure of the Peshawar University and other educational institutions, demanded their immediate reopening. It also condemned the new admission procedures in the Khyber Medical and Quaid-e-Azam College of Commerce. The meeting, addressed by the provincial nazim of the Jamiat, Fakharul Islam, suggested that the legitimate demands of the students be accepted before they came out on the streets. It also condemned the ban on student unions. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 4 Nov 83 p 6]

NOORANI'S EXPULSION FROM PUNJAB CRITICIZED--KARACHI, Nov 3--Prof. Shah Faridul Haque, the Deputy Secretary General of JUP has strongly condemned Moulana Shah Ahmed Noorani's expulsion from Punjab." On the one hand the politicians are being consulted by the President to find out the solution of the present crisis and on the other their entry in different areas was being prohibited," he added. He warned the government that this attitude would harm the country more than it would benefit the present government. It may be recalled that the Moulana had called a meeting of the Central Executive of the JUP on Nov. 9 at Lahore. With this ban on his entry in the province the meeting would have to be postponed or the venue will have to be changed. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 4 Nov 83 p 6]

BASHIR BILOUR IN KHAIRPUR JAIL--PESHAWAR, Nov 3--Bashir Ahmad Bilour, a prominent political leader and brother of Haji Ghulam Ahmad Bilour, Secretary General of defunct NDP has been shifted from Peshawar to Khairpur jail. During his 15 days stay at Peshawar he was afforded facilities by the jail administration to enable him to appear in the university exam in M.A. Political Science which has since concluded. [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 4 Nov 83 p 6]

MRD LEADERS' DETENTION EXTENDED--The detention period of four MRD leaders has been extended for another 90 days. They are Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, Khwaja Khairuddin, Mr Mairaj Mohammad Khan and Mr Abid Zuberi. Mr Jatoi and Khwaja Khairuddin are lodged in the Rest House, Karachi; Mr Mairaj is in Sukkur Jail and Mr Abid Zuberi in Hyderabad Jail. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 83 p 7]

NEW IIT OFFICE HOLDERS--Lahore, Nov 13: Meraajuddin Khan has been elected Nazim-i-Aala of the Islami Jamiat-i-Tulba, Pakistan, for the session 1983-84, according to an IIT Press release. He has appointed Ejaz Ahmed Chaudhry as the Secretary-General of the organisation in consultation with the Central Shura. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 83 p 7]

RECRUITMENT FOR OMAN PROTESTED--Turbat, Nov 17: A recruitment mela for Baluch Youth from Makran for Sultanate of Oman forces was held on Nov 14 and 15 at the Koh Murad Ground here. Students belonging to the Baluch Students Organisation from the Govt Degree College, the High School and other schools staged a protest strike against the recruitment drive. They also distributed pamphlets. Two policemen were manhandled by the students and tyres were put on fire on road. Some roads were also blocked with stones. The students also demanded release of 35 students and 10 other supporters. Fifteen thousand people had gathered at the Koh-i-Murad ground for the recruitment mela. A mob broke the barrier put up by the police and militia who were forced to fire in the air. Teargas shells were also fired and lathi-charge was ordered. A number of persons were injured. One policeman was hit in the eye, one person hurt in the nose and two others were admitted in the Civil Hospital for treatment. Traffic remained suspended for four hours at Miani, Tump and the Bazars were also closed. The students there also staged strikes. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 15]

ILO WORKSHOP PLANNED--Islamabad, Nov 17: The President, Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, who is also Patron-in-Chief of Rural Development Foundation of Pakistan, will inaugurate a 3-day workshop organised jointly by RDF and ILO supported by National Centre for Rural Development, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development on Dec 6. The subject of the workshop is "rural non-farming activities for men and women for employment and income generation". The participants are drawn from the target group i.e. marginal farmers, artisans, landless labourers, women, youth, policy makers, Government and non-government departments/agencies concerned with implementation of rural development at micro level, representatives of national/international agencies and U.N. family. The workshop will include a visit to village Gohda near Taxila where participants will see a demonstration of artisans and craftsmen and women at work. Finally, based on the recommendations of the workshop an area specific project to improve the skill of the rural people will be formulated to be located in a selected village.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 15]

JOURNALISTS CRITICIZE OBSTRUCTION OF MEETING--Lahore, Nov 17: An Emergency meeting of the Punjab Union of Journalists (PUJ) criticised the measures taken by the authorities in deploying a police force outside the premises where the working journalists were to assemble to attend a meeting of the PUJ (Bureaus group). According to a Press release issued by the PUJ, the

meeting adopted resolutions and expressed its surprise on the steps to obstruct a closed door meeting purely to discuss issues pertaining to journalistic community. The press release further said the trustee of the Bukhtiar Labour Hall, Mr Bashir Bukhtiar, was officially advised to refrain from giving permission to the PFLJ president to hold the meeting. Although a clear announcement in the newspapers was given that the meeting had nothing to do with politics and it was being organised to express resentment on the issues such as, Press censorship, Press advice, retrenchment and arrest of some journalists. The meeting was to be addressed by the journalists and trade union leaders, the Press release added. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 15]

PLEA FOR EARLY ELECTIONS--Prof. Ghafoor Ahmad, a leader of defunct Jamaat-i-Islami, has asked President Zia-ul-Haq to hold National and Provincial Assemblies elections at the earliest and he "should no more "test" the patience of the people." Speaking at a gathering held at Shah Faisal Colony for Mr. Abdus Sattar Afghani on his re-election as Mayor of KMC, Prof. Ghafoor said owing to the absence of a representative government the work of the Local Bodies had become more intricate. Mr. Abdus Sattar Afghani, in his speech, reiterated that he would work for the betterment of all areas. The reception was also addressed by Councillors, Birjis Ahmad, Mohammad Ayub and Muzaffar Hashmi. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 19]

ENQUIRY URGED INTO EXCESSES--The newly formed Sind Unity Front headed by Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani has urged President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq to constitute a high-powered judicial tribunal to investigate into the alleged excesses committed by the law enforcing agencies during the MRD movement, says a Press release. The Front recommended that the enquiry tribunal should consist of all the four High Court chief justices and those found guilty by the tribunal "should be suitably punished in accordance with law." If the President did not constitute the tribunal within a fortnight, the meeting said, the front would constitute an independent tribunal on the pattern of Bertrand Russell Tribunal. Maulana Noorani proposed that the findings of the independent tribunal so constituted by the Front would be placed before the new government when it is formed under the Constitution and those found guilty of any crime or offence would be recommended for suitable punishment. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 24]

SMALL ARMS JOINT VENTURES--Lahore, Nov 17: The American small arms and ammunition manufacturing in the private sector in Pakistan is likely to be included in the list of joint ventures between the two countries, official sources informed DAWN here today. However, it was maintained that this sector could be opened for private sector but would be subject to the approval by the United States Government, the Congress and the issuance of licenses by the appropriate agencies and authorities in that country. Explaining the possibilities for the manufacture of US small arms and ammunition in the private sector, the sources said it could be done in Pakistan as similar joint ventures had been approved in the past for various other countries. According to these sources as far as recommendations at the initial level were concerned the two sides agree in principle and there was no encounter on the subject. The interest of Pakistani manufactures was the main leverage in this regard and the proposals would be appreciated and entertained if found feasible, the sources added. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 24]

MRD LEADER ON MOVEMENT GOALS--Lahore, Nov 13: The acting Secretary General of the Central MRD Malik Mohammad Qasim today said the response shown to the MRD's call at the end of the Solidarity Week had proved that the struggle was purely for restoration of democracy and for preserving the solidarity of Pakistan. Addressing a Press conference today he said that the allegation by some quarters that the movement was being led by "miscreants and saboteurs" was completely baseless. A large number of workers arrested on Saturday at various places had made it known that they stood only for elections and transfer of power to elected representatives. None of them had taken law in their hands, he added. He claimed that processions and meetings were held all over the country--at Khairpur, Jacobabad, Mirpurkhas, Sheikhupura, Mansehra, Swat, Kalat. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 83 p 7]

CLARIFICATION ON EDITOR'S ARREST--Rawalpindi, Nov 17: Mr Kafi Butt, editor of daily HAIDER, has been arrested for his involvement in some unlawful political activities, according to official sources. His arrest has nothing to do with his professional work, the sources added.--APP. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 8]

PLEA FOR COTTON POLICY REVIEW--The All-Pakistan Textile Mills Association (APTMA), Sind-Baluchistan Zone, has requested the Federal Government to review the cotton policy immediately so that the cotton prices may come down. It noted with concern that the prices of cotton are increasing mainly because of damage to cotton and that the ginners are backing out of contracts without any reason and this is leading to further speculation on cotton prices. Furthermore, on account of nonstabilisation of cotton prices, no forward sales in the international market of yarn and cotton cloth can be made as "we are being completely out-priced and are bound to lose our traditional markets pricewise." The meeting suggested the following measures: Substantial reduction of import duty on viscose and polyester fibre import of raw cotton of one inch or below one inch which is required for coarse count may be allowed to be imported freely to bring down the prices and no further shipments of raw cotton till a review of the cotton crop is made by the Government.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 8]

SALINITY, WATERLOGGING RESEARCH CENTER--Gujranwala, Nov 17: An International Salinity and Waterlogging Research Centre is to be set up soon at Mona with the help of UNDP. This was disclosed by Dr S. M. H. Bokhari, member (Water) WAPDA, while talking to an eight-member Chinese delegation currently visiting Pakistan. Dr Bokhari told the delegation that Pakistan, at one time, faced great danger to its lands by the twin menace of waterlogging and salinity. In the early years, he said, Pakistan was losing one acre of land after every five minutes and that now the process had been reversed due to execution of WAPDA's SCARP projects. WAPDA has already reclaimed eight million acres of land through the successful operation of 28 SCARP projects completed so far. A number of such projects, now being implemented, would show very encouraging results after their completion, he added. [Excerpt] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 9]

TRAIN DERAILED--Sukkur, Nov 17: The engine of Karachi-bound Super Express got derailed near Rohri this morning with the result that the main railway

track remained blocked for more than five hours. Consequently, Karachi Express, Sukkur Express and Awam Express were late by several hours. It may be recalled that the engine of the Super Express has got derailed at this very place for the third time in a month. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Nov 83 p 9]

BBC URDU SERVICE AUDIENCE--London, Nov 13: A survey carried out in Pakistan in June and July, 1982, by the BBC, "brought evidence of a regular audience of 10 million adult listeners of the BBC Urdu service in Pakistan alone", claimed the "1984 BBC Handbook", published on Friday. Besides, it claims, there are many listeners of the BBC Urdu service in India and the Gulf. According to the handbook, there are one and a half billion radio sets in the world--almost three radio sets for each TV set. The number of radio sets in the Middle East and Africa has jumped from less than three and a half million to 40 million; in India, the number has soared from one million to 40 million; in China, from one million to 80 million, since 1955, according to the handbook. The handbook said the All India Radio has a somewhat larger audience in Pakistan--58.5 per cent against BBC's 46.8 per cent. Other international broadcasts listened by Pakistanis, include Radio Tehran 11.1 per cent, Radio Kabul 5.9 per cent, Radio Moscow 2.9 per cent, VOA 2.7 per cent, Radio Beijing 1.8 per cent and Deutsche Welle (German Radio) 0.6 per cent. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 83 p 8]

PAKISTAN-CHINA BICYCLE MANUFACTURING--Lahore, Nov 13: The first joint Pak-China bicycle manufacturing unit has been finally approved by both the Governments and an agreement to this effect has been signed between a private entrepreneur from Pakistan and the China National Machinery Import and Export Corporation. The biggest of all bicycle manufacturing units in the country, the proposed unit would have a single shift capacity to produce 180,000 bicycles. Sanctioned in the private sector and to be completed at an estimated cost of about Rs 150 million, the unit will be installed in Haripur Hazara, NWFP. It is expected to start functioning by the end of 1985 with a strength of 500 workers on a single shift basis as against 2,500 to 3,000 workers in other conventional bicycle plants. The Federal Finance Minister is presently engaged in processing the documents regarding "supplier's credit". The cost and freight value of bicycle parts and components of manufacturing machinery would be around Rs 70 million. The bicycle unit has been given tax holiday for a couple of years. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Nov 83 p 14]

VEGETABLE PRICES RISE--Short supplies from up-country have further pushed up the vegetable prices and, as a result, Sabzi Mandi on University Road has run short of supplies for the retailers, a trader said yesterday. The Bureau of Supply and Prices, however, blamed the traders for manipulating the prices of vegetables in the wholesale as well as retail markets. A Bureau spokesman said that November to March being a "peak-period," there could be no shortage of vegetable supplies. A survey of the Liaquatabad, Tariq Road, and Gulshan-i-Iqbal markets of the city showed that the prices have registered a further rise, by 100 to 200 per cent, during the last four weeks. [Excerpt] [Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p 9]

MRD LEADERS ARRESTED--Lahore, Nov 12: The police today arrested three MRD leaders from the entrance of Masjid-i-Shuhada at Regal Chowk following the offering of Ghaibana Namaz-i-Janaza by them, for those who were killed during the recent incidents in the Sind province. It was the last day of the 'Solidarity Week' observed at the call of MRD. Malik Mohammad Qasim, Acting Secretary-General of MRD and a leader of the defunct PML (Khairuddin group), Mr. Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri, Information Secretary of the defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqal, and Amir Hussain Gillani, President of the defunct Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam (Fazalur Rehman group) Punjab, were taken into custody. Earlier, a small group of people gathered in Masjid-i-Shuhada and offered Namaz-i-Janaza after Zuhur prayers. Before that, about 500 policemen, some of them carrying guns, had surrounded the mosque. Since morning, the entire area was blocked by the police who had fixed wooden barriers on each and every road-crossing leading to the High Court, Masjid-i-Shuhada and the headquarters of the Martial Law Administrator, Zone 'A'. Traffic on these roads, including The Mall, remained completely suspended for about four hours as no public or private transport was allowed to ply on these routes. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p 12]

MUSLIM LEAGUE LEADER ARRESTED--Lahore, Nov. 12: Syed Maqsood Shah, Treasurer, Pakistan Muslim League (Khawaja Khairuddin group), and Vice-President, Punjab Muslim League, was arrested at 1 a.m. from his Cantonment residence. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p 12]

PPP WOMEN'S DETENTION EXTENDED--The detention period of five leaders of the defunct Pakistan People's Party (PPP) has been extended for two months. Mst Asghari Rahim, Noor Jehan Soomro, Farida Khanum, Begum N. D. Khan and Suraiya Baluch were arrested during the current MRD movement and were detained at the Central Prison, Karachi, where their detention period expired on Saturday. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p 9]

DAMAGE TO PUNJAB COTTON CROP--Lahore, Nov 12: Forty per cent of the cotton crop has been damaged in Punjab, and as against the target of 32 lakh bales fixed for this season there would be a yield of only 21 lakh bales. These figures were announced by Provincial Agriculture Minister Ghazwanfar Mohammad Khan at a Press conference here today. The causes of damage were stated to be pest attack and heavy rain. The normal consumption of cotton for the Punjab is estimated at 26 lakh bales and the total consumption of the country is about 32 lakh bales. Twentyone lakh bales would be produced from the Punjab and the remaining 11 lakh bales from the Sind province. The Minister suggested that the Cotton Export Corporation should review its position to enter the market for cotton buying, as together with the last year's surplus stock of about five lakh bales there would hardly be an additional quantity of cotton to cater to the needs of the textile mills etc. Meanwhile, the textile mills have conveyed their apprehensions to the Government as, according to them, out of over 200 textile mills in the country over 50 are expected to be closed down if immediate remedial measures are not taken at the official level. A number of textile mills are still in the category of "financially weak" and they are unable to buy cotton at the rate of Rs. 750 as against the officially-fixed support price of Rs. 440. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 13 Nov 83 p 12]

CONVICTED PROFESSORS IN JAIL--Islamabad, Nov. 10: The three lecturers of the Quaid-i-Azam Univeristy, who were sentenced on Nov. 8 to various terms of RI and fines by Military Court No. 52 for possessing anti-Government material, have now been shifted from class 'B' to 'C' in Rawalpindi District Jail. Meanwhile, it was learnt that the decision of the MLA, Zone 'A', on the judgement of the Military Court, convicting all the three, is final and it will not be sent for CMLA's approval. Arrested in November 1981, Mr Jamil Omar was sentenced to seven-year RI and a fine of Rs 50,000, Dr Mohammad Saleem to three-year RI and a fine of Rs 25,000, and Mr Tariq Ahsan to two-year RI and a fine of Rs 10,000. In the earlier report, Mr Tariq Ahsan was inadvertently reported to have been sentenced to three-year RI, instead of two years. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 11 Nov 83 p 6]

CANADA TO DEVELOP ARID LAND--Canada will assist in the development of range land, particularly in Kohistan, and "Registani" (desert) areas of Sind where rainfall is much low and substantial water is needed. In this regard, various ways and means were discussed at a meeting held by the visiting Canadian range expert, Dr John Looman, with the Provincial Secretary, Forest, Mr Hameed Ahmad, and other officials of the department in Karachi on Thursday. Mr Ahmad apprised the Canadian expert about the steps taken for the development of arid land covering two-thirds area of the province. It was decided that the Pakistan Agriculture Research Council will carry out research in this regard in cooperation with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Dr John Looman informed the meeting that CIDA would help accelerate research work on maximising production on arid land here through scientific range management techniques and by introducing exotic species. It may be recalled that this project was launched under the directive of President of Pakistan for rehabilitating 5,000 hectares arid land for multiple use at a cost of Rs. 1.563 million in Karachi, Dadu, Sukkur, Tharparkar, Khairpur and Thatta districts. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 11 Nov 83 p 17]

MAZARI'S DETENTION PERIOD EXTENDED--The period of detention of Sardar Sherbaz Khan Mazari, President of the defunct National Democratic Party (NDP), has been extended by another one month. Mr Mazari, who has been ill since Sept. 2 last while under detention in Multan Central Jail, was brought to Karachi on Oct. 10 and detained in his Defence Society residence. The NDP chief is currently under the treatment of Dr Shaukat Ali Syed with a suspected angina, ulcer and amoebiasis condition. Dr Cockel, a gastro-entological expert from Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham, who is here in connection with a seminar, may examine Mr Mazari under permission from the Sind Home Department. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 11 Nov 83 p 18]

TEACHERS PROTEST POLICE ACTION--Hyderabad, Nov 10: A delegation of Sind University Teachers' Association called on the Commissioner of Hyderabad Division, Mr Abdullah J. Memon, to protest against the unauthorised entry of police into the house of Mr Haji Khan Abbasi, a lecturer of the Institute of Physics and Technology, Sind University, Jamshoro. The delegation apprised the Commissioner of the situation and demanded stern action against the policemen who handcuffed and detained Mr Abbasi. The Commissioner assured the delegation that a probe into the incident would be carried out and those found guilty would be dealt according to the law. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 11 Nov 83 p 18]

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